

"MONEY TALKS"

An animated movie

Screenplay by

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Based on the book - 'Money Talks'

By

Ronnie Lee Johnson

Words appear over blackness: **"Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps you in touch with your children." - J. Paul Getty**

EXT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, BERWYN, NEW YORK STATE - DAY

An OLD PERRIN WINDMILL spins away, pumping up fresh water from far below to serve an idyllic FARM HOUSE resting atop a slight rise in an otherwise flat landscape.

The TWO STORY MAIN HOUSE with wrap around porches is now a FADED BLUE, in the distance a PEELING RED BARN, off to the side of the barn is an OLD, ONE STORY STONE BLACKSMITH'S SHOP with numerous chimneys GIVING OFF SMOKE.

At the start of the long driveway, a dilapidated, hand-painted sign reads: **"M.J. Murphy's Financial Advisory, 'If you Don't Pinch your Pennies, they'll Pinch you Back!'**

A SIGN IS NAILED OVER IT THAT READS: **PERMANENTLY RETIRED**

The sound of CHILDLIKE WHISTLING can be heard, but no child to be seen. The CAMERA POINT OF VIEW MOVES IN SLOWLY...

JOHNNY P (V.O.)
(bit of a NYC accent)
My name is John Penny, but I like
Johnny P, and yeah, I'm a coin,
bright and shiny.

Out of the TALL GRASS A SHINY COIN EMERGES, with arms, legs, face, and most importantly, PERSONALITY. JOHN PENNY whistles away, joined by William SILVER, his ASSIGNED PROTECTOR.

Johnny is a RARE PENNY while Mr. Silver a RARE SILVER DOLLAR.

JOHNNY P (V.O.) (CONT'D)
This is my pal, well not so much a
pal as Drill Sergeant. William
Silver is his name, but never call
him 'Bill' for short. Ever.

MR. SILVER
Now Johnny, you are not to do
anything dangerous, understand?

JOHNNY P
(playfully like a soldier)
YES SIR, MR. SILVER, SIR!

Johnny runs off toward the WINDMILL PUMP, churning away.

JOHNNY P (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Murph ordered him to keep me safe,
 unscathed, and most importantly,
 never spent. Murph would smelt him
 down if he let me get spent. Murph
 is my owner by the way, he's human.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM WINDMILL - CONTINUOUS

Johnny hops about on the WINDMILL'S MACHINERY LIKE A GYMNAST
 coming DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO DESTRUCTION by the MOVING PARTS.

Mr. Silver does his best to save him from damage of any kind.

MR. SILVER
 (barking orders)
 Stop all movement or prepare for a
 verbal lashing of epic proportions!

Scaling the Windmill, Johnny makes his way to the SPINNING
 BLADES, dangerously GRABS THEM and start SPINNING WILDLY
 ABOUT. HIS HAND HOLDING THE BLADE GLOWS HOT as some inner
 magic allows him to hold on against the extreme forces.

Johnny has a BLUE MARK, TRIANGLE SCRATCHED around it.

JOHNNY P (V.O.)
 Some of my owners through the years
 and other interested parties, have
 referred to me as Blue Spot. See, I
 have this silly blue blotch on me
 that simply will not rub off.

Mr. Silver, who is SAFE DOWN BELOW, calls out--

MR. SILVER
 Hand grips don't impress me, Blue
 Spot! You aren't on the level!

JOHNNY P
 COME ON!!! I'M AMAZING!!!

MR. SILVER
 I will not be blamed if you come
 home tarnished like a tin cup!

JOHNNY P
 (calls out to Mr. Silver)
 I've been soaked in salt and apple
 cider vinegar, been dipped in acid,
 and one nut even tried to use a
 razor to get my spot off!

MR. SILVER
WELL ONE MORE SCRATCH IS MY HIDE!!!

Johnny releases his grip and is FLUNG HIGH INTO THE SKY with a look of utter joy on his face.

JOHNNY P (V.O.)
I sometimes get to thinking that this spot is fused into me so deeply that it was a part of me when I was first minted.

As he spins faster the BLUE SPOT BEGINS TO GLOW with a golden radiance, causing him to DEFY GRAVITY.

JOHNNY P (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Whatever it is, I like it, it makes me different than the rest.

Mr. Silver sees he is NOT FALLING, causing great frustration.

MR. SILVER
No one likes a show-off, Johnny.

Johnny SPINS SO FAST his descent slows and LANDS PERFECTLY.

MR. SILVER (CONT'D)
(stuffy man's voice)
ENOUGH! If Murph found out what you were up to-- LINE UP! LINE UP!

Johnny stand stern like a soldier, NOT HAPPY AT ALL. Johnny leans over and whispers to an INVISIBLE PERSON--

JOHNNY P
A paper dollar's worth just as much as Bill here, did you know that?

Mr. Silver gets VERY ANGRY--

MR. SILVER
THAT'S MR. SILVER, COPPER-BUTT! NOT BILL OR MR. BILL! SILVER! Dollar Bills are FIAT! Worthless paper rags unfit to shine my buttocks! I HAVE ACTUAL VALUE! REAL WORTH!!

Johnny P turns and walks away into the GIANT GRASS FOREST...

JOHNNY P
(cutting him off)
A Silver Dollar minted in 1794 by John Voigt, blah-blah weigh a whopping 26.73 grams of total bu--

MR. SILVER
 (cutting back in)
 DON'T YOU SAY IT!! I'LL TELL MURPH!

Johnny walks off toward the STONE BLACKSMITH SHOP--

MR. SILVER (CONT'D)
 HENRY VOIGT MINTED ME, NOT JOHN! No
 one's ever heard of a *John Voigt!*

JOHNNY P
 (country man's voice)
 Need to kick off your boots now and
 again, *Bill*. Relaaaax.

MR. SILVER
 My name is William Henry Silver my
 worthless tin footed friend.

JOHNNY P
 Worthless? I'm a Chain Coin.

MR. SILVER
 It's not proven!

JOHNNY P
 I have the mark, Murph said so.

Johnny rubs his BLUE SPOT, a CONTENTED SUN SHINING DOWNWARD
 on his forehead, written on his tummy, MIND YOUR BUSINESS; on
 his back, 13 RINGS with 'WE ARE ONE' in the center.

MR. SILVER
 Poppycock! That's a *flaw* in your
 metallurgy! You are worth-less than
 me. Always will be. Facts!

Mr. Silver MARCHES OFF like a proud goose, Johnny shakes his
 head, annoyed but accepting and slowly follows after him.

JOHNNY P
 (to himself, annoyed)
 Can take the Bill out the Dollar,
 can't take the Dollar out of Bill.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM BLACKSMITH SHOP - DAY

Stoutly built, this muscular edifice is built of chiseled
 stone with few windows, but numerous SMALL to LARGE CHIMNEYS
 rising from the CLAY TILED ROOF, all billowing smoke.

JOHNNY SINGING comes from the thick GRASSY FIELD AROUND IT--

JOHNNY P (O.S.)
 Penny, penny pick it up and all day
 long you'll have good luck.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM GRASSY FIELD - DAY

Johnny walks along SURROUNDED BY THE TOWERING GRASS FOREST,
 it's size overwhelming and spooky. Johnny stops, sniffing.

JOHNNY P
 Mr. Silver...? That you...?

A RUSHING COMES FROM THE GRASS, blade tops shiver--

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)
 (conjuring bravery)
 Snake. Murph would say run, but I'm
 tired of running. I'll run no more!

A BLACK RACER SNAKE appears in his path, Johnny is terrified.

OMINOUS
 (cutting him off)
 Sssilly Saayingssss. If it issssn't
 my little tassssty friend.

Johnny withdraws a tiny, yet SHINY STEEL SWORD, an ORNATELY
 DESIGNED SCIMITAR shaped like a crescent moon FROM HIS SIDE.

JOHNNY P
 NOT THIS TIME, SNAKE! BACK OFF!!

OMINOUS
 (suddenly startled)
 Where did you get that sssword?!

JOHNNY P
 (like a proud father)
 It's a scimitar, small, but in a
 pinch, worth it's weight.

OMINOUS
 The lesssss you talk the quicker we
 can get thisssss over with.

Black Racer lunges, Johnny POKES HIS SNOUT with the SWORD--

OMINOUS (CONT'D)
 OH! THAT ISSS SSSSMARTSSS! OUCH!!

The SNAKE REELS BACK, actually in a lot of pain.

JOHNNY P
 (loathing the thought)
 You know as well as I do you can't
 digest me. You just poop me out and
 I roll away, so stop eating me.

OMINOUS
 I can't help myssself, sso ssshiny!

It lunges for another bite but Johnny POKES IT AGAIN--

JOHNNY P
 NO MORE! IT ENDS HERE!!

There is a stand off, the Snake weighs his options.

OMINOUS
 Another time then, perhapsss when
 you are sssleeping...

The SERPENT SLITHERS OFF, Johnny INSERTS HIS SCIMITAR as he
 ENTERS a CRACK IN THE BASE OF THE BUILDING, shouting back--

JOHNNY P
 Coins never sleep! We rest!

INT. COUNTRY FARM BLACKSMITH SHOP - DAY

Johnny runs through a well appointed blacksmith shop, many
 handmade items hang from walls, KNIVES, SWORDS, HORSE SHOES,
 HAMMERS, WRENCHES, whoever works here is a MASTER CRAFTSMAN.

FLAMES from numerous kilns breath heat as one of many ORNATE
 BELLOWS pump air into them. MURPH, a man now in his late
 60's, large and strong, wearing his blacksmith's apron, sits
 in front of a LARGE STEEL ANVIL, Johnny hops on top of it--

JOHNNY P
 (terribly excited)
 Boy do I have a story! You wo--

MURPH
 (silencing Johnny)
 Lessons first! Money is like...?

JOHNNY P
 (completely un-excited)
 A garden.

MURPH
 Money must be planted if it is to
 grow. When, where and how it is
 planted will determine its growth.

JOHNNY P

(grumbling, frustrated)

If I could spend myself I would buy
a Jawbreaker, a candy bar, fresh
salty peanuts, an ice cream cone,
lollipop, bubble gum, bag of--

MURPH

(cutting him off)

Money gambled away becomes an
orphan from time.

JOHNNY P

You always talk about time and
saving money, I'd rather do the
March 28, 1948 Jack Benny skit!

Murph looks sternly at Johnny who finally submits, listening.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM BLACKSMITH SHOP, WALKING PATH - DAY

Mr. Silver steps from BEHIND a RUSTY PAIL, staring at the
CRACK IN THE WALL, sizing it up, uncertain but determined.

MR. SILVER

Can you fit through that crack?

OMINOUS

Yesss, but thingsss have changed.

In a towering tuft of grass OMINOUS' EYES SHIMMER and tongue
shakes about. He slowly EMERGES INTO THE CLEARING.

MR. SILVER

Silver never changes!

OMINOUS

You didn't sssay he wasss armed.

MR. SILVER

I was clueless!

OMINOUS

I want more than just Johnny now.

MR. SILVER

(confirming things)

Make sure that blue spotted copper
top finds himself Auctioned off at
the American Numismatic Society
World Fair of Money this weekend?

OMINOUS

Yesss and what is promissssed me?

MR. SILVER

I know where Murph saves all his shiny pennies, the sleeping ones.

OMINOUS

I prefer eating the waking ones.

MR. SILVER

There's thousands of them, Ominous, you could be King of the Snakes, the Red Barn your Kingdom.

Ominous looks out over the grass at the RED BARN.

OMINOUS

King of all the Sssnakesss, yesss.

The Snake hisses happily and slithers away. Mr. Silver looks into the thick blades of grass, past the FLATTENED SNAKE TRAIL leading off toward the GIANT RED BARN beyond.

MR. SILVER

(quivers at the thought)
Whole barn is full of vipers.

INT. COUNTRY FARM BLACKSMITH SHOP - EVENING

Murph continues his lesson with an ALMOST SLEEPING Johnny slumped over on the anvil, bathed in FLICKERING LIGHT.

MURPH

I was once the most well respected Money Manager in New York City. More Coins have passed through my fingers than you can imagine.

JOHNNY P

Why *did* you retire...?

MURPH

My mentor once told me, "If you chase dollars long enough, they will eventually catch you."

JOHNNY P

Yeah, I never really got that.

MURPH

Catch means to control you. That's the last thing a person wants to happen, then life loses its luster, vim, vigor, and vitality.

JOHNNY P

Still don't get it. Can we ple--

MURPH

(cutting him off)

Like the Old Lady of Brazil says--

JOHNNY P

(finishing his sentence)

'The measure of having is never enough', I know, Papa Murph! Can we do the Jack Benny Skit? Please?!

He studies Johnny closely, PINCHING HIM, causing him to giggle uncontrollably, trying jokingly to PINCH HIM BACK.

MURPH

(settling down)

Ready for the set up?

(Johnny nods)

Benny, a real penny pincher, is walking down the street with his last penny in his pocket when A mugger leaps out!

Johnny P pretends to be the MUGGER, LEAPING OUT WITH A GUN.

JOHNNY P

(tough gangster voice)

"Don't make a move, this is a stickup! Now, come on. Your money or your life."

Murph takes a COMICALLY DRAMATIC PAUSE-- Johnny continues--

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)

"Look, bud! I said your money or your life!"

Murph snaps back, without a pause--

MURPH

"I'm thinking it over!"

They both crack up, finding this very funny. MR. SHINY JUMPS UP ON THE ANVIL, taking over the moment, VERY JEALOUS.

MR. SILVER

He has a sword! Yanked it out of his side, like a crescent moon.

MURPH

A scimitar...? Very special blade.

Johnny shifts about, obviously guilty.

MURPH (CONT'D)

This true, Johnny...?

Murph examines Johnny carefully, REMOVING THE SCIMITAR.

MR. SILVER

Johnny fought a snake with it!

MURPH

A snake?! Last time one ate you I found you five miles away!

JOHNNY P

(defiant and frustrated)

BUT MURPH I WAS PROTECTING MYSELF--

MURPH

Heroics are for men, not Coins!

Johnny sheepishly bows away, knowing he has misbehaved.

MURPH (CONT'D)

It's one thing to accumulate riches my tiny friend; it's another thing when riches consume you.

JOHNNY P

I'm not rich and don't want to be.

MURPH

I'm disappointed in you, Johnny.

JOHNNY P

Just a sword. It isn't valuable.

MURPH

Time for money is ransomed by the dream of getting rich overnight. You've got to be very smart to make money but a real genius to save it.

JOHNNY P

I need to be able to save myself!

Johnny is sad now, Mr. Silver puffs up his chest, pompous.

MURPH

That's what I'm trying to teach you! You are the Chain Coin, you will never be spent.

JOHNNY P

I've been spent plenty of times.

MURPH

If Mr. Silver gets spent, he loses his life. Johnny, you don't.

Mr. Silver interrupts, LONGING FOR ATTENTION.

MR. SILVER

Like Mr. Murph says, *"With the dice in life, there's always a price"*!

MURPH

(playing into it)
What is your net worth then?

MR. SILVER

(butting in proudly)
Total Silver weight of .7734 Troy Ounces! Minted October 15, 1794, graded MS 70 by the Numismatic Society of America. Current value at auction, \$975,000.00.

MURPH

(enjoying this)
Quite valuable indeed. You are both Collectible, you'll never decrease in value, only increase.

Murph reaches down and PINCHES HIS PENNY'S CHEEK-- Johnny tries to swat him away but SECRETLY LOVES IT, giggling hard.

JOHNNY P

If you don't pinch your pennies they'll pinch you back, Murph!

Johnny tries hard to pinch Murph's giant finger but can't. Murph settles him down, giving him a little CLOTH POLISHING.

He relaxes, enjoying the rub down--

MURPH

You have a purpose, Johnny. It is imperative that you know this purpose.

(MORE)

MURPH (CONT'D)

Once you grasp it, a calmness will come over your heart and you will feel an energized power that's already inside you.

(Murph pinches Johnny)

Knowing your purpose will end your fear. Knowing your purpose allows you that inner peace so desperately needed. Now get some rest so you can rise and *shine*.

Murph exits to blacksmith shop, locking the door behind him.

Mr. Silver looks down his nose at Johnny, then hops off the anvil to a shelf where TWO BRASS BOXES, padded with comfy blue velvet, sit safely on a rough wooden shelf.

MR. SILVER

I'm spent! No whistling, wheezing sneezing, snoring, snuffles, snoods or snarks! Silver needs rest!

Mr. Silver hops in his box, SLAMMING IT SHUT. Johnny hops over and gets in his box, leaving it open so he can stare out a small window at THOUSANDS OF TWINKLING STARS.

JOHNNY P

(quietly to the stars)

I wish I knew my purpose, like Murph knows his. I don't want him to bare the price of saving me.

Johnny hears a CREAKING SOUND-- He hops out of his box.

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)

Hello... Someone there...?

From below the shelf, OMINOUS SPRINGS UP AND EATS JOHNNY before he can draw his sword, swallowing him whole.

He smiles wickedly when Mr. Silver OPENS HIS BOX--

MR. SILVER

(serious, whispering)

Remember our deal. Serpents can't break promises once they're made.

OMINOUS

Assss far ass I can ssslither.

Down into the darkness the snake goes, sounds of its belly slipping across the floor follow as Silver questions his choice, moonlight glinting off his GUILT RIDDEN FACE.

EXT. NEW YORK STATE COUNTRYSIDE - DAWN

A VERY TIRED OMINOUS comes from the grass on a high knoll, huge oak growing from it. At the edge of a drop off is a PAVED HIGHWAY FAR BELOW with CARS AND TRUCKS PASSING.

In the distance, a sooty gray cloud hides the great Empire State Banking Capital of America, **New York City**.

OMINOUS

I'll drop you here, it'sss clossse enough. May have to sssslice yourself out of a mousssse ball or two.

The snake tries to poop but can't. He tries again...

OMINOUS (CONT'D)

Sssssomething isssn't right--

INT. OMINOUS' INTESTINAL TRACT - SAME TIME

In near darkness, the GLIMMER of Johnny's GLOWING HANDS reveals he has built a FRAMEWORK OF RODENT BONES, blocking any further passage of digested items, CLOGGING THE PIPES.

JOHNNY P

Eat me will you... See how easy I am to poop out this time, snake!

EXT. NEW YORK STATE COUNTRYSIDE, CITY OVERLOOK - SAME TIME

Racer tries harder but can't achieve a thing. Frustrated, he positions himself against the oak tree--

OMINOUS

Now isssss not the time for sssstage fright. PUSSSH!!

Racer COILS UP LIKE A SPRING, pushing so hard he suddenly snaps, shooting out off the ledge, FALLING DOWN BELOW.

INT. DALE'S CAR, DRIVING - MORNING

Inside an OLD STATION WAGON is a 50's Mr. Dale, hard life etched in his wrinkles, sitting by his son, 12 year old 'too small for his age' Zack. Zack and Dale are both very excited.

MR. DALE

Wait until we show my brother what we got this time! Holy smokes!

Zack snacks from a JAR OF PICKLES--

ZACK
 (munching away)
 Wait until he sees our Liberty Cap!
 He'll never hate pennies again!

The SNAKE LANDS ON THE WINDSHIELD, scaring them both. THEY SCREAM! He swerves all over, cars careening left and right, the SNAKE FLYING ALL OVER the hood.

DALE
 What in the wrong side of Philly?!!

ZACK
 SNAKE! CAREFUL, DAD!! WATCH OUT!!

EXT. NEW YORK STATE HIGHWAY, OUTSIDE TOWN - DAY

Dale's car skids off the road, Ominous sliding down the hood, off the front where he is SUCKED UNDER THE WHEEL.

OMINOUS
 NO-NO-NO-NOOOOOOOOOO--

Dale and Zack get out and examine the snake. Zack sees SOMETHING SHINY mixed in with crushed snake.

DALE
 ZACK! Don't you dare touch that--

Zack PICKS IT UP anyway, to his father's dismay.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Oh fine, whatever, then, just no more pickles, okay? What is that?

ZACK
 Looks like he ate a penny...

Zack brings the dirty coin to the front of the car, rubbing it clean in the HEADLIGHT. He and his father's EYES WIDEN--

ZACK (CONT'D)
 It's a Fugio! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

DALE
 Impossible, let me see that...

Dale takes the coin, SPITS ON IT, cleans it further, showing off all it's beautiful markings and date stamp.

UNKNOWN TO DALE but SEEN BY ZACK, Johnny giggles at the pinching, loving it. Zack half smiles as his dad freaks out.

DALE (CONT'D)
OH MY LUCK A FUGIO IN A SNAKE! WAIT
UNTIL MY BROTHER GETS A LOOP ON IT!

A LARGE TRUCK BLOWS PAST, blasting its LOUD HORN--

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, MANHATTAN STREETS - DAY

The HORNS CONTINUE HONKING, the grimy hustle and bustle of the city the never sleeps is endless. ZACK'S CAR IS STUCK IN THE MIDDLE of all the other cars and chaos.

DALE (O.S.)
(still amazed)
A Fugio Cent. What are the chances?
Guess my years of driving a bus are
numbered now with this luck!

INT. DALE'S CAR, STUCK IN TRAFFIC - SAME TIME

Zack finishes a PROPER POLISHING of his new coin. His father looks over, proudly. Zack watches Johnny enjoying the polishing like a massage, but DALE SEES AND HEARS NOTHING.

JOHNNY P
Lil lower and to the right.

ZACK
He has a spot... A flaw...

DALE
(suddenly worried)
What is it...?

ZACK
Someone tried to cut it out.

Johnny smiles at Zack, not knowing he can see him.

DALE
Since we're going to see your uncle
at the Numismatic Society, should
we have him Graded?

ZACK
Oh, Dad! You are the best! Yes!

DALE

You're Uncle will love that coin.
Lock him in with the others.

Zack unlocks the glove box where there is an ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX, secured with a latch. He opens the latch--

ZACK

(to the coin)
I promise, you'll never get spent.

Johnny smiles back at him as Zack drops Johnny into the box, closing the lid and securing it tightly.

INT. ZACK'S ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX - DAY

In total darkness Johnny hears a MAN CRYING. He steps forward tripping over something. The sobbing stops--

Johnny RUBS HIS HANDS TOGETHER vigorously until they start glowing like hot metal, LIGHTING UP THE INTERIOR OF THE BOX.

JOHNNY P

Hello...? Someone there...?

Johnny looks over at a PENNY IN A PLASTIC SLEEVE, like a body wrapped for the morgue. Johnny scoots away--

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)

(startled at the sight)
GHHAHHH--

He backs into another PENNY IN A PLASTIC SLEEVE, terrified he rolls over coming FACE TO FACE with another one, only this one is alive. He talks from INSIDE THE PLASTIC SHEATH--

EDDY P

(tough Boston accent)
You're squashing my nose...

JOHNNY P

AHHHH! HEY! Hi. Uhhh--

EDDY P

Haven't met a Talking Coin in ages,
most live down in Coinage. Our days
of being saved are numbered, pal.

JOHNNY P

Coinage...? What's that...?

EDDY P

Don't play with me, *kiddo*, not in the mood. Been sealed in plastic three years and counting!

JOHNNY P

You've been in there three years?

EDDY P

Every now and again Zack takes me out for a good polishing, which is wonderful, otherwise...

Eddy sags his head--

EDDY P (CONT'D)

Sealed up like a can of sardines.

JOHNNY P

Let's get you out of there then--

Johnny starts to remove him, but Eddy won't allow it.

EDDY P

NOPE! I've accepted my fate, so should you. It's the Numismatic Society auction block for us. Zack doesn't know it, but his Dad is getting us Graded to sell us.

JOHNNY P

At the Numis-what-a-mi-junky...?

EDDY P

Don't pretend you haven't heard of it, every coin worth their weight in metal knows who they are.

JOHNNY P

Not me. I'm Johnny P, who are you?

EDDY P

What's the point in names anymore, from here on out I'm just a number.

Eddy point at a NUMBER LISTED ON THE PLASTIC-- Johnny rubs his hands together again, heating them, CREATING LIGHT.

EDDY P (CONT'D)

And of course, I'm number two. How do you do that by the way? Heat yourself up without melting?

JOHNNY P
Not sure, always been able to.

EDDY P
Who Minted you?

JOHNNY P
My old pal, Benny.

EDDY P
(thinking hard)
Never heard of him. Mine was James
Longacre, 1857. Zack thinks I'm
rare enough to be in the Numismatic
Society's World Fair of Money.
(very sadly)
I'm Eddy, but call me 'Mr. Shiny'.

Johnny shines his light lower to reveal the AMERICAN EAGLE IN
FLIGHT EMBOSSED ON EDDY'S CHEST, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
written above it, the year 1857 STAMPED ON HIS BELLY.

JOHNNY P
I'll just stick with Eddy.

EDDY P
Show me your Mint date.

Johnny shines the light on himself, a RISING SUN on his
forehead, SUNDIAL SURROUNDED BY 12 ROMAN NUMERALS on his
chest, MIND YOUR BUSINESS on his belly, ON HIS BACK are 13
LINKED RINGS with WE ARE ONE in the center.

On Johnny's LEFT ARM is 1787, his right the WORD FUGIO--

EDDY P (CONT'D)
(suddenly realizes)
A Fugio! Benny is Benjamin
Franklin?! A Chain Coin?!

JOHNNY P
Kept me in his pocket his entire
life. When he passed, he willed me
to his son Temple who willed me to
Francis who willed me to Sarah who--

EDDY P
I get the picture! Now help me out.
Has adhesive-- careful now!

Before Eddy knows it, Johnny DRAWS HIS SCIMITAR and SLICES
THE TOP OFF, plastic sagging down. Eddy's eyes go wide in
disbelief as Johnny inserts his sword in his side.

EDDY P (CONT'D)
How in Heaven's handbag did you--

A HUGE JOLT SENDS THEM TUMBLING WILDLY-- One of the pennies, LARGER THAN THE OTHERS and MOST WELL KEPT hits the roof.

The PLASTIC SLEEVE FLOPS OPEN, coin starting to slip out.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, MANHATTAN STREETS - DAY

Dale's car RUMBLES OVER A SERIES OF POTHOLES WILDLY--

ZACK
DAD! CAREFUL! THE COINS!!

MR. DALE
Well if the city spent our tax dollars on fixing these potholes instead of on God knows what!

INT. ZACK'S ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX - SAME TIME

The larger penny slips out and SMACKS AGAINST JOHNNY, magically lighting up on impact. Eddy is mystified as it shines so bright and hot the WOOD ON THE INSIDE OF THE BOX STARTS TO SMOULDER, burning a small HOLE IN THE BOTTOM.

EDDY P
How are you able to do that?!

The once lifeless penny is now ANIMATED, IT'S OWN FACE AND PERSONALITY. She gathers herself, still shining from within.

JOHNNY P
(immediately in love)
Holy Libertas! A Phrygian goddess!

She is beautiful in every way, no abrasions, no scrapes, the perfect specimen. He flowing hair concealed by a RED KNIT CAP. All she has stamped upon her front is the year 1793.

SALLY P
(suddenly embarrassed)
Oh my! Ummm... Pardon me!

JOHNNY P
I'm Johnny this is Eddy. You are?

SALLY P
Sally P Liberty, from Philadelphia.

She turns shyly away, on her back is STAMPED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in a circle, wrapped about a LAUREL WREATH surrounding the words ONE CENT in the center.

EDDY P
(very impressed)
She's a liberty cap! Designed by
the one and only Joseph Wright.

Sally steps away, her inner glow fading as she cools.

SALLY P
Wrong.

EDDY P
Wrong?

SALLY P
Right.

EDDY P
That's what I said.

SALLY P
You were wrong.

EDDY P
You just said I was right.

SALLY P
It was wrong that it was Wright.

EDDY P
What's so wrong with being right?

SALLY P
You aren't right at all.

Eddy rolls his eyes, giving up.

EDDY P
Women are so confusing.

JOHNNY P
I think she means it wasn't Joseph
Wright that designed her.

EDDY P
Of course it was Wright! Ha! See,
now who's wrong about being right?

SALLY P
I think I know myself better than
you. My Minter was Robert Scot.

Eddy and Johnny look at one another, no clue.

SALLY P (CONT'D)
 (rather proudly)
 Chief engraver of the United States
 Mint? Must have heard of him.

EDDY P
 Maybe in 1793, but not in my time,
 missy! I bet dozens of Minters have
 come and gone since then.

Suddenly all the rumbling stops and it gets quiet, too quiet.

EDDY P (CONT'D)
 QUICK! IN YOUR SLEEVE! WE'RE HERE!

Eddy hops back in his sleeve and pretends to be sleeping.
 They feel the BOX SUDDENLY LIFTED and all TUMBLE ABOUT--

JOHNNY P
 Where's here?!

EDDY P
 (overly dramatic)
 The Numismatic Society! Where coins
 are sent to be alone forever! Each
 in its own diabolical sleeve shoved
 in some ominous display case, only
 to be taken out once a year! Rarely
 polished, never pinched!

Johnny and Sally look at one another, not like it at all.

JOHNNY P
 (suddenly determined)
 Guess we have to escape.

SALLY P
 (a little saucy)
 How do you plan on that smart guy?

Sally steps back, thrown off balance by the swaying, and her
 HEAVIER WEIGHTED FOOT BREAKS THROUGH the charred wood.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - DAY

The streets are busy, city noisy. Dale is parked a block from
 the NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING in front of a row of shops, a
 FANCY RESTAURANT, Pinch N Polish Shop, HIGH END WOMEN'S
 FASHION STORE, and a PET STORE SPECIALIZING IN PET SNAKES.

Zack carefully carries the WOODEN BOX, not seeing that on the underside is A SCORCHED HOLE and tiny foot dangling.

He looks at his father and smiles--

ZACK

This is the best day ever!

DALE

You bet it is, son. After we get these coins Graded, especially that Fugio Cent?! G-Willickers, I'll be the richest fella in Hoboken!

Zack stops walking over a WIDE GRATE above the SEWER SYSTEM.

ZACK

You said we were only getting them graded, we wouldn't auction them.

DALE

Son, I drive a bus! These coins are worth more than I've made in years.

ZACK

But we collect them, not sell them.

DALE

Listen, we need the dollars more than the pennies. The economy isn't great, your mother is sick, they've cut half my routes. We're broke.

ZACK

I want to go home.

BELOW THE BOX, Johnny kicks the hole bigger--

DALE

Won't be a home to go to if the bank takes it, son.

INT. ZACK'S ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX - SAME TIME

Eddy is still in his Sleeve, resigned to his fate while Johnny and Sally now both kick away at the hole--

EDDY P

Find a sleeve and get some rest,
it's the of end days for us!

Just then, the HOLE BREAKS LOOSE and Sally FALLS THROUGH, grabs a SHAFT OF WOOD, dangling above the STORM GRATE.

SALLY P
HELP ME!!!

The box shifts, FLINGING JOHNNY AWAY from her. Eddy's eyes go wide and he leaps out of his sleeve--

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - DAY

Dale stares softly at his son and reaches for the box, TAKING IT AWAY, but just then, Zack YANKS IT BACK--

ZACK
You promised me!

BELOW THE BOX Sally is swung about wildly, almost falling.

DALE
Fine, Zack! You pay for the car,
the house, the medical bills! The
food, the clothes you grow out of!

ZACK
I'm tiny! I've been wearing the
same clothes since I was six!

INT. ZACK'S ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX - SAME TIME

Johnny and Eddy watch in horror as SALLY LIBERTY FALLS AWAY FROM THEM, disappearing between grates, down into darkness.

JOHNNY P
LIBERTY!!!! NOOOOOOOO!!!

Johnny is CRUSHED. He goes to jump after, Eddy stops him.

EDDY P
Don't do it! I know what's down
there, it's the System.

JOHNNY P
The sewage system?!

EDDY P
The Monetary System, just as bad.

JOHNNY P
Well I'm not part of either!

Johnny yanks his arm free of Eddy and dives out--

EDDY P
YOU WILL BE NOW!!!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - SAME TIME

A GROUP OF SNAKES IN THE PET STORE watch as the SHINY COIN FALLS THROUGH THE GRATE, their tongues wagging lustfully. BALEFUL, a LARGE YELLOW FEMALE PYTHON, is the leader--

BALEFUL
(hissing female voice)
I SSMELL COINSSS...

Dale again reaches for the box, Zack pulls away, betrayed--

DALE
You can save one but not the Fugio,
it's... It's too valuable.

Dale gets a GREEDY GLINT IN HIS EYE, possessed by the coin.

ZACK
Please don't sell them. Please? If
they're worth this much now, think
how much they'll be worth later?

Dale reaches for it again, Zack SWINGS IT BEHIND HIS BACK--

INT. ZACK'S ORNATELY CARVED WOODEN BOX - SAME TIME

Eddy and the remaining TWO CASED COINS SLIDE OUT THE HOLE.

EDDY P
Not the System! Not again!!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - DAY

The TWO SLEEVED COINS and EDDY FALL THROUGH THE GRATE as Zack's dad finally gets his hands on the box, RUNNING TOWARD the Numismatic Society Building like a mad man.

DALE
You'll forgive me one day son!!

NOW ALL THE SNAKES ARE AT THE WINDOW, watching hungrily.

Zack stares at a VICTORIAN EDIFICE, 13 STORIES TALL, one city block long and wide, GARGOYLES AND OTHER STATUES grow from SLENDER TURRETS, and every single GUTTER and ROOF CASING is POLISHED COPPER. He sadly walks after his dad, head hanging.

ZACK
(quietly to himself)
You always lose your coins.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM - DAY

Eddy wakes up to Johnny smacking him around-- He pushes him away, standing up to get his bearings. HUGE TUNNELS stretch in four directions, GIANT RATS and INSECTS CRAWL ABOUT as a RIVER OF MOLTEN FILTH FLOWS BY.

JOHNNY P
I can't find her Eddy!! What if she
went in the river?!

EDDY P
Calm down, kid! Look!

Eddy points, JOHNNY PULLS HIS SWORD on the TWO SLEEVED COINS.

JOHNNY P
Thought it might be a snake.

EDDY P
A snake? In the city?

JOHNNY P
I live on a farm, it has snakes.

EDDY P
What coin is scared of animals,
they don't even know we exist.
Except monkeys, they somehow know.

JOHNNY P
They're trained to know, snakes on
the other hand, they *know-know*.

EDDY P
Know what...?

JOHNNY P
How shiny we are, so they eat us!

EDDY P
Snakes can't digest a penny, no
animal can, not even a human!

JOHNNY P
Snakes don't care, they like the
way we shine so they eat us over
and over again if they can!

EDDY P
Even covered in poop...?

JOHNNY P
Even covered in poop.

EDDY P
Snakes are disgusting.

JOHNNY P
Most vile creature you ever met.

Johnny goes to the sleeved coins and SLICES THEM OPEN with his scimitar, bags sagging about their lifeless impressions.

EDDY P
Don't you dare Animate them, you don't know where they've been.

JOHNNY P
They're pennies, they can't be bad.

EDDY P
Haven't met any English flat-nose Pence, have you? We get to Coinage, you'll see. Coins can be a lot worse than snakes, trust me.

JOHNNY P
(very concerned)
What if she went in the river...?

Eddy kicks the BIG PENNY--

EDDY P
What're the odds she'd go in the river and not us? Or this 1838 Coronet! He's bigger than Liberty and didn't bounce in the water.

JOHNNY P
(not convinced)
Then where is she...?

EDDY P
Taken.

JOHNNY P
Taken? By what? A rat?

EDDY P
Coin Collectors, a crew of them.

JOHNNY P
Humans down here?! HA! HILARIOUS!

EDDY P
Not humans, coins like us, but work for the System.
(MORE)

EDDY P (CONT'D)

They wait below storm grates for loose change, then take them to Coinage for Grading.

JOHNNY P

(totally baffled)

Whatever, just bring 'em with us.

Eddy grabs the PLASTIC SLEEVES and drags the two coins away.

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - DAY

Zack walks down a hall LINED WITH FRAMED COINS, many looking sadly back at him. Zack PRETENDS TO NOT SEE them, entering GRAND DOUBLE DOORS, where GENE, a late 50's MONEY MANAGER, sits at a SMALLER DESK off to the side, gazes at Zack coldly.

On a LEATHER COUCH are Apolla, his 13 year old nemesis who sticks her tongue out rudely and her mother, Ms. Ruth, Mr. Matson's over-indulgent and spend-thrift girlfriend.

BILL MATSON, early 70's, Prominent Banker and President of the Numismatic Society, stand with Dale LOOMING OVER THE ORNATE BOX on his a ROUND DISPLAY TABLE.

His office is FILLED WITH BOOKS on the History of Banking, Coinage, and Alchemy. Coins are displayed INCASED IN PLEXIGLAS BOXES, many ANIMATED AND ALONE; miserable.

Zack sees them, but says nothing. He feels bad for them.

DALE

(extremely excited)

I know you see zero value in them, but these ones, I promise they'll be the highest grade ever.

MR. MATSON

(miserable and grumpy)

PENNIES! I HATE PENNIES! Sure some you described are collectible but it's no Brasher Doubloon! First Gold Coin ever minted in America!

He HOLDS ONE UP in a small GLASS BOX, it is NOT ANIMATED.

DALE

Yes, but hear me out, the creme de la creme! A one and only, superbly minted penny, small discoloration with a scratch, but designed by a very famous man and your favorite inventor from Colonial History--

Dale points to his BOOKS ON ALCHEMY--

DALE (CONT'D)
 --bit of an Alchemist himself, a
 man who once flew a kite during a
 lightening storm with a key and
 coin attached to its string--

Rush leans away from him, cuddling a cute POMERANIAN.

MR. MATSON
 (cutting him off)
 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN?! YOU HAVE A
 FUGIO CENT?! Small blue blemish?!

Zack sadly nods in the affirmative. Matson is astonished.

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)
 That's the very coin he had
 connected to his kite string!

ZACK
 Must be what caused the blemish.

Mr. Matson whips out his checkbook, filling it out quickly.

MR. MATSON
 I'll pay a grand ransom for it,
 I'll even buy the rest of that
 useless Copper at top dollar!

He hands the check over-- IT READS: \$267,898.12

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)
 The twelve cents are for good luck.

On his OVER CLUTTERED DESK sits the ORNATE WOODEN BOX, his
 Dad and Bill hovering over it as he slowly UNLOCKS IT--

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)
 QUICKLY QUICKLY NOW! SHOW ME!!

Dale opens it, they both look inside and their JAWS DROP--

DALE
 (completely shocked)
 IT CAN'T BE! THEY WERE JUST HERE!

Zack looks into the box, it is EMPTY, the bottom has a SMALL
 BURNT HOLE in it and matching scorching on the top.

MR. MATSON
 (getting angry)
 Get my hopes up then dash them on
 the rocks. Disgraceful!

Matson RIPS THE CHECK-- Dale turns the anger on Zack--

DALE
 (blaming his son)
 Where are they?! Pockets! Now!

ZACK
 (totally baffled)
 I don't have them, pop, I swear.

Zack shows his pockets are empty, Mr. Matson studies the box.

ZACK (CONT'D)
 Uncle Bill--

MR. MATSON
 That's Mr. Matson to you!

ZACK
 Mr. Matson, sir, I promise we had
 it and I didn't hide them. Maybe
 the light in the glove box burnt
 that hole and they fell out?

DALE
 (suddenly hopeful)
 They could be in the car right now!

Mr. Matson considers this, chewing on a thought...

MR. MATSON
 Tell me, this Fugio Cent you claim
 you had, how did it come to you?

DALE
 It's the craziest story ever. A
 snake fell from the sky, right on
 our car, nearly drove off the road.

MR. MATSON
 (suddenly interested)
 A snake you say...? Go on...

ZACK
 (excitedly describes)
 Black one, long yellow stripe down
 its back. Ran right over it.

DALE

Zack and I hop out, take a look,
low and behold, the penny was
inside the snake! It had eaten it!

MR. MATSON

Fascinating.

DALE

You think I'm crazy don't you...?

MR. MATSON

Au contraire, brother, you found a
Chain Coin. Extremely valuable.

GENE SITS AT HIS SIDE DESK, listening in as Ms. Rush too
becomes interested, HANDING the dog to Apolla.

MS. RUSH

A Chain Coin indeed! Sounds like it
could be worth a fortune! Let's go
shopping, darling, shopping!

MR. MATSON

In due time, my dear.

Apolla watches Zack wander to the window, staring at their
car, parked near where they were arguing.

APOLLA

If she's shopping, I'm shopping.

Zack watches a BUSINESS MAN walk over the STORM GRATE drop a
CIGARETTE DOWN INTO IT-- Zack thinks-- Turns to them--

ZACK

I think I know where they are.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM - DAY

Johnny puts ONE HAND ON EACH COIN and they immediately glow
WHITE HOT, LIGHT SHINING EVER BRIGHTER, rats and bugs scurry
away, terrified of the light. Eddy is just awestruck--

EDDY P

Where does this power come from...?

JOHNNY P

I don't know, I was minted with it.

The bigger one WAKES FIRST. A CORONET LARGE CENT, LADY LIBERTY on his chest CIRCLED BY 13 STARS, 1838 on his belly, a LAUREL WREATH down each arm, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA between his shoulders, ONE CENT on his lower back.

BIG AL
 (all smiles and friendly)
 Rick Allen Penny's the name, saving
 money is my game! Call me Big Al!

He shakes their hands jovially as the OTHER PENNY wakes up.

A DRAPED BUST PENNY, LIBERTY ACROSS HER COLLAR with 6 STARS DOWN HER LEFT ARM, 7 DOWN THE RIGHT and 1796 on her tummy.

She has a SIZEABLE DENT in her head, hiding it with her hair.

BIG AL (CONT'D)
 (wowed by Dawn)
 Badabing-badaboom! A Draped Bust.
 Boy, I'd sure spend myself on you!

EDDY P
 Easy pal, you just met the Lady.
 Miss? You get a ding on the fall?

She studies the three coins a moment, unsure...

DAWN P
 (serious, sophisticated)
 Flaw's been there since my Minting.
 I'm Dawn, never call me *Dent*. Ever.

BIG AL
 I'll call you anything you like!

EDDY P
 Maybe she doesn't want you to call?

JOHNNY P
 ATTENTION PLEASE! The mission is,
 Lady Liberty. Got it? Save Liberty!

DAWN P
 I'm a Liberty and a lady. Is he ok?

They all kind of look at one another, not sure about it.

JOHNNY P
 I'm looking for *my* Lady Liberty.
 She's bigger than you. No offense.

DAWN P
 (she studies him)
 I feel compelled to help you but
 have no logical reason why.

BIG AL
 Same here.

EDDY P
 (very suspicious)
 Are you casting a spell right now?

JOHNNY P
 No, I'm trying to get to Coinage.

EDDY P
 Well all of Coinage is under a
 spell. I was an outsider, stolen
 from my owner by the Vault Master.
 But I escaped, found myself on the
 streets outside the Numismatic
 Building, where Zack picked me up.

JOHNNY P
 Where I live, no one will sell us.
 It's on a farm, where its safe.

They wander down the DARK SEWERS PIPES, Johnny RUBBING HIS
 HANDS TOGETHER, heating them to light the way...

EDDY P
 Didn't you say something about
 snakes eating you out there?

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - DAY

Dale and Zack exit the building followed by Mr. Matson, Gene,
 Ms. Rush, and daughter Apolla with their dog. Zack pushes his
 way through the crowd to the STORM GRATE and looks down.

ZACK
 When my dad tried to grab the box I
 yanked it away. I remember not
 feeling the coins in it.

The OTHERS GATHER, staring down. THE DOG BARKS at something.

APOLLA
 You felt them? They were in a box.

ZACK
 Not like that, the weight of them.

Behind them, the PET SHOP SNAKES press against the corner of the window, a CRACK SLOWLY STARTS TO FORM-- They all smile.

MS. RUSH

You can feel the weight of a penny?

Everyone laughs at this, but Dale does not.

DALE

Of course he can! I raised him! Now son, you sure about this...?

ZACK

I'm positive, they fell down there.

MR. MATSON

Gene, go into the basement of the building, see what's in the sewer.

GENE

I'll get someone on it right away.

Gene winks obviously at Matson and walks to the building. Zack sees this, his father is too stressed to notice.

MR. MATSON

Worry not, young Zack, I'll find them if they are down there.

Zack sees a strange, almost evil glint in Matson's eyes.

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)

How about we look at some *snakes*?

They walk to the GLASS WINDOW OF THE PET SHOP, Zack SEES THE CRACKED GLASS. The Snakes have the SAME EVIL GLINT as Matson.

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)

You may already have observed this, but snakes love coins. Watch...

Mr. Matson removes a GOLD EAGLE holding it up, the SNAKES GO MAD, banging the glass, SNAPPING AT THE COIN. A BRIGHT Baleful is the scariest of all. Zack backs away, not amused.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM - DAY

A 1902 BRITISH ONE PENCE COIN, NOSE POUNDED FLAT, TINY IRON BILLY CLUB in hand, BOBBY HAT on has KING EDWARD'S PROFILE ON HIS CHEST and written about it in Latin is:

EDWARDVS VII DEI GRA: BRITT: OMN: REX FID: DEF: IND: IMP:

He looks over, THREE MORE OF THEM, all with flattened noses.

On their backs is BRITANNIA, a feminine personification of the United Kingdom, seated with a ROMAN HELMUT, SHIELD AT HER SIDE with a UNION JACK FLAG, HOLDING A TRIDENT.

BOBBY C
(whispering to them)
Found ourselves more Collectibles.

Johnny and the rest continue walking along, totally unaware.

DAWN P
It's delusional to think a human
will save us forever, they can't
save a nickle to make a quarter.

EDDY P
Much less a penny! And we love to
be pinched the most!

BIG AL
Bottom of the Coin Chain we are.

EDDY P
In Coinage, pennies do all the work
while the rest live off our backs.
When our number's up, they smelt us
down to build the city bigger.

BIG AL
Maybe we *should* turn back.

Big Al turns around only to find the FLAT NOSE PENNIES, JACK BOOTS ON and ready, standing there, FOUR OF THEM TOTAL.

BOBBY C
Is this a coincidence or what? We
get a report of loose change
mucking about and here you are.

EDDY P
(quietly to the others)
Bobby C and the Flatnose Crew. Best
Coin Collectors in the System.

Eddy steps up, putting on a stoic act--

EDDY P (CONT'D)
I was giving these Collectibles a
tour, see, I too am Collectible,
and we do have our privileges.

BOBBY C
 (thick London accent)
 Riiight. Well, I think the only one
 who can decide Collectibles is--

EDDY P
 The Master of the Vault, yes! Know
 Mr. Bill Matson like I know myself.

BOBBY C
 You a friend of Bill's, aye?

EDDY P
 Yes, and as I was giving these
 Collectibles a tour, we got lost.

BOBBY C
 Matson ain't Vault Master no more
 and tours ain't allowed outside of
 Coinage. What's your Ledger Number?

EDDY P
 (still remembers it)
 P479305.

BOBBY C
 (to Big Al suspiciously)
 What's yours, big fella?

BIG AL
 (has no idea)
 They change it so much, uhhh, hmm,
 been awhile since I used it.

Big Al nervously looks at the others-- Johnny RUBS HIS HANDS
 until they glow, SHINING LIGHT at the COIN COLLECTOR CREW.

ALL THE COINS BECOME MESMERIZED, especially Big Al--

JOHNNY P
 (soft and calming)
 You don't need our Ledger Numbers,
 these aren't the Coins you're
 looking for, lead the way.

The GLOW DISSIPATES as the Coins come back to reality.

BOBBY C
 Not sure why I'm doing this, I want
 to pound you, like really really
 hard, but... follow me, mate.

Big Al throws his arms around them, they frown at him--

BIG AL
 (finally relieved)
 Mate's a good thing! I was in
 London once, almost fell in the
 Thames. Owner at the time--

Bobby jabs Big Al with his NIGHT STICK, hand walks off.

BOBBY C
 Don't press against me. *Mate*.

JOHNNY P
 (asking curiously)
 Who are you looking for anyhow?

BOBBY C
 A penny escaped his owner, special
 like. Worth more than you lot.

DAWN P
 You collect pennies for humans?

BOBBY C
 We pound pennies, you're just lucky
 you're Collectible, like the other
 we found. What a shiner she was.

JOHNNY P
 She was...? Where is she now...?

Bobby stops and turns, now very suspicious--

BOBBY C
 You tellin' me you a Collectible
 and don't know where she is?

EDDY P
 He was joking.

BOBBY C
 I don't get jokes.

Johnny P walks off followed by the others, Bobby reads his
 back as he passes, WE ARE ONE written in the center of 13
 CONCENTRIC RINGS. He studies it, Curiously...

BIG AL
 I know a great joke! A Quarter
 walks into a bar, bartender says,
 'What'll it be?' Quarter says,
 'Shot of Polish.' Bartender says,
 'That'll be a dollar.'

NO ONE LAUGHS. Big Al is bummed, Johnny pats his back.

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The sun is now down, Zack sits at the window, the traffic and city lights dance about. Behind him Dale paces, stressed out.

DALE

Thirty more minutes and I will pace
a hole through this floor!

Just then, Matson enters with Gene, somber look on his face.

MR. MATSON

Not looking good. Plumbing crew got
right under the grate, nothing yet.

Zack is absolutely crushed, Dale is too.

DALE

I was counting on those pennies.

MR. MATSON

Counting on pennies? Need money?

DALE

(cutting him off)
I don't take hand outs, Bill.

MR. MATSON

Oh, I wouldn't give you a dime, but
come to the bank and I'll buy your
house. Bottom dollar of course.

ZACK

The house is all we have left!

Dale thinks about this a moment.

DALE

How much would you pay for it?

MR. MATSON

Ohhh... You were serious? HA! I
wouldn't buy that bag of bricks!

Rush enters, not happy at all-- Apolla stands in the hall giving Zack an evil glare while petting her mother's dog.

MS. RUSH

Darling, really?! We're late for
drinks with the Mayor! Late! Over a
worthless penny!

BILL

Yes, dumpling dear, pennies are for fools, but there are a few fit for smart men, only smart men never lose them. Call me about your bus route, maybe I'll buy that instead.

APOLLA

(glaring at Zack)

Not everyone can be born with a silver spoon and platinum purse.

Bill and Rush head out, Apolla sticks her tongue out. Zack sags even further, Dale now sees how this is his fault.

DALE

Son... I'm so sorry I blamed you.

Zack walks out of the office leaving his dad alone and sad.

ZACK

See you in the lobby, dad.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

AT THE PET SHOP, the window is now splintered like a web as the BIGGEST SNAKE BUNTS HIS HEAD against it, knocking a pane of glass out. The SNAKES HISS EXCITEDLY--

SNAKES ALL TOGETHER

COINSSSS SSSSOOOOO CLOSSSSSE.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM VAULT ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The sewer pipe has now given way to a chamber with a SHINY COPPER SAFE DOOR BUILT INTO THE WALL, large compared to the coins, but to a human, it would be a normal sized wall safe.

BOBBY C

You lot are just in time for the next Ascension Ceremony, know you Collectibles love those.

Bobby OPENS THE SAFE DOOR, a FLICKER AMBER LIGHT spills into the chamber. Eddy, Dawn, and Big Al are dazzled by it...

JOHNNY P

(very quietly)

What's the Ascension thingy...?

EDDY P

You don't want to know.

INT. CITY OF COINAGE, BELOW NUMISMATIC BUILDING - NIGHT

Johnny, Eddy, Dawn, and Big Al stop at an overlook, eyes wide at the world before them. The ENTIRETY OF THE BUILDINGS, STREETS, all of it is MADE OF POLISHED COPPER. Lit up by ELECTRIC LIGHTING powered by the SMELTING REFINERY.

The shimmering off the SHINY STEEL WALLS of the vault in the distance looks like a WATERY SKY DOME.

The vault is filled with an ART-DECO, STEAM-PUNK WONDERLAND of CRANKS, PULLEYS, CHAINS, TOWERING SKYSCRAPERS, BRIDGES, COPPER PARKS, SNAKING COIN TRACKS, it's a wild site.

The size of the INTERIOR OF THE VAULT is one full city block in length, breadth, and height, which for a coin is massive.

In the center is Silver City, the FANCIEST BURROW. A single TOWER RISES HIGHER THAN THE REST, almost all the way to the CEILING OF THE VAULT, NICKEL PLATED with a blinding shine.

Everything is RIVETED TOGETHER like an Erector Set. A row of SINGLE COIN TRACKS slope down like a wild slides out over the burrows, dropping down into their DESIGNATED AREAS.

Above the SINGLE COIN TRACKS are listed: **SINGLE COINS ONLY, ONE AT A TIME, NO JAMMING THE SLOTS!**

EDDY P

Least we're Collectible, we'll get a Carriage. Single coin tracks are murder on the ribbing.

PENNY, NICKEL, DIME, and QUARTER SIZED COIN SLOTS indicate which one to hop through before rolling down the tracks.

A SIXTH SLOT, not built well at all has a SIGN THAT READS: **FOREIGN COINS AND TOKENS ONLY! USE AT YOUR OWN RISK!**

Silver Dollars travel by TROLLEYS and ONLY in Silver City.

A SIGN above it reads: **TROLLEY'S FOR SILVER OR CELEBRITY COINS ONLY! ALL OTHERS WILL BE FLIPPED!**

Above the SILVER CARRIAGE PLATFORM is written, '**The Haves**', above the QUARTER, DIME, AND NICKEL TROLLEY AND SLOTS is written, '**The Haves-Not**' and above the PENNY SLOTS is scratched, '**The Have-Not-Paid-for-What-They-Haves**'.

BOBBY C

I catch you bunch outside the City again, mates, I'll pound you.

BIG AL
I don't think you're using the term
mate correctly.

Bobby starts laughing--

BOBBY C
Now that's funny, mate.

Bobby and the Collectors CLOSE THE SAFE, locking them in.

BIG AL
I wasn't joking.

JOHNNY P
I've been all over the world,
climbed to the top of Mount Everest
in Jim Whitaker's breast pocket.

He walks to a viewing platform, totally bedazzled--

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)
(continues his rant)
Flew over Antarctica stuck in
Admiral Byrd's Flight Cap. Climbed
the Pyramids of Egypt in James
Henry Breasted's boot, never have I
ever seen a sight like this.

EDDY P
Pennies are a capable bunch.

DAWN P
(totally amazed)
Pennies designed all this...?

EDDY P
Designed *and* built it. South is
Nickelville, up north Dimetopia,
out west is Quarteropolis, and in
the middle, Silver City.

BIG AL
Where's the penny section...?

EDDY P
Pennytown is below us, in the east.

They look down, seemingly miles below, separated from the
other Burrows by a MOLTEN COPPER RIVER is a dilapidated and
overcrowded PENNYTOWN, the Copper Smelt GLOWS ORANGE HOT.

A LOUD CLANKING SOUND, like a chain grinding, gives way to an ORNATE, almost VICTORIAN LOOKING CARRIAGE that RUNS ON A SINGLE AA BATTERY, a finely POLISHED MECHANICAL DRIVER.

EDDY P (CONT'D)
Mechanical drivers? That's new.

DAWN P
How long did you live here for?

The carriage is lowered onto the tracks, they all get in.

EDDY P
Vault was opened in 1858, I was minted in 1857, you do the math.

JOHNNY P
When did you escape...?

EDDY P
It's the Monetary System, no coin escapes it, we all get spent.

Another LOUD CLANG and the DRIVER RELEASES THE BRAKE--

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY TRACKS - NIGHT

The carriage drops down a steep slope, picking up MASSIVE SPEED, rising and falling as it SNAKES ITS WAY to the heart of Coinage where it comes to a rest in a grand esplanade lined by GOLD PLATED STATUES of great COIN DESIGNERS.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HAS THE LARGEST STATUE. It has been vandalized with 'WE ARE ONE' and ELI SCRATCHED INTO IT.

DAWN P (O.S.)
This place is so magical! I would never want to leave here.

They see ONLY SILVER COINS ENJOYING THEMSELVES, the PENNIES DO BUSY WORK under the WATCHFUL EYE of the SILVER GUARD.

EDDY P (O.S.)
Nah, there's a Caste System ,
Silver Dollars and jack-booted Half
Dollar Guards run everything.

WHEN PENNIES FINISH A TASK, THEY HOP IN A PENNY SIZED COIN SLOT ALONG THE LOWER PART OF THE WALLS AND DISAPPEAR.

EDDY P (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Dimes, Nickels, and Quarters
 support them because they make
 pennies do all the polishing,
 smelting, we work, they play.

The streets are perfectly polished, lined with TROLLY TRACKS
 where LUXURY CARRIAGES pass safely by one another, filled
 with BRIGHT SILVER DOLLARS, like Victorian Era Aristocracy.

EXT. SILVER CITY CARRIAGE STATION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The carriage arrives at a grand NICKEL PLATED ARRIVAL
 STATION. NUMEROUS WEALTHY NICKELS, DIMES, and QUARTERS mingle
 amongst the ULTRA RICH SILVER DOLLARS, all polished to shine.

DAWN P
 But if we're Collectible, then
 we're special, right?

EDDY P
 Once a penny, always a penny.

Johnny, Eddy, Dawn, and Big Al hop down from the carriage,
 all the OTHER COINS react, disgusted.

BIG AL
 Hiya! I'm Big Al, put'r there!

He sticks his hand out but the ARISTOCRATIC COINS TURN AWAY.

LADY SILVER
 Ewww... Two in one day!

GENTLEMAN SILVER
 That's four!

LORD SILVER
 Five. That one who arrived earlier.

LADY SILVER
 Oh now she was a shiner.

JOHNNY P
 (to Lady Silver)
 Was she a Liberty?

LADY SILVER
 Ewww... It's talking to me!

LORD SILVER
 Gross.

All the COINS WALK AWAY from them.

BIG AL
You're no different than us!

EDDY P
(very stern)
Don't draw attention.

NUMEROUS HALF-DOLLAR SILVER GUARDS eyeball the Pennies--

DAWN P
Why don't they like us?

EDDY P
No one likes us, we're pennies!

JOHNNY P
So how do we find her?

EDDY P
If a Teller met her here, she's
shopping for her Ascension.

BIG AL
A Teller...?

EDDY P
Collectible Coins get a personal
Teller, gives them Credit within
the Monetary System based on their
Grade. A Teller can buy you things.

DAWN P
Why don't we have a Teller...?

A TALL SILVER TOWER rises above, SIGN READS: **SILVER TOWER**

MORGAN P (O.S.)
(nervous girl's voice)
I'M HERE! I'm late! First day!

A HALF-CENT stands there, 1832 on her belly, 7 STARS DOWN HER
RIGHT ARM, 6 ON HER LEFT, BRAIDED HAIR and LIBERTY HEADBAND.

On her back UNITED STATES OF AMERICA written in a circle a
LAUREL WREATH down each side, HALF CENT on her lower back.

MORGAN P (CONT'D)
(smiles sheepishly)
I know, I'm a half-penny, but I got
Graded, and my rating is the best!

EDDY P
 (happy to see her)
 If it isn't the Dancing Queen.

MORGAN P
 Haven't danced in ages. You are...?

EDDY P
 I'm a bit scratched up, but it's
 me, Mr. Shiny. Eddy P? Pennytown?

MORGAN P
 My memory isn't what it used to be.

EDDY P
 Boy, I've been gone a long time.

MORGAN P
 (suddenly excited)
 So who wants to go shopping?!

EXT. SILVER CITY SHOPPING PUBLIC SHOPPING CENTER - NIGHT

Long, centipede-like trains carry Nickels and Dimes into the center in bulk, all hopping off and going to work in one of the tall, polished copper office buildings.

ON THE SIDES OF BULK TRAINS are SCRATCHINGS, LIKE GRAFFITI but done by carving images into the metal.

Most of the writing reads, '**WE ARE ONE**', even on the walls of buildings. Some with the name '**EL**' next to it or just '**WAO**'.

DAWN P
 What's with all the scratch art?

MORGAN P
 Uhhg, so ugly I know, but it keeps
 us pennies employed removing it!

DAWN P
 We are one... What's it mean?

MORGAN P
 It's stupid, some movement to break
 down the Caste System here.

DAWN P
 I think it's pretty cool.

MORGAN P
 Scratchers get sent to the smelters
 if they're caught. Cool or stupid?

Coins prance about in WILD OUTFITS STAMPED with DESIGNER LOGOS. Only SILVER DOLLARS wear GOLD ORNAMENTATION.

JOHNNY P
These coins look ridiculous.

EDDY P
Should have been here in the 70's.

Morgan leads them across a busy street, CARRIAGES AND TROLLEYS pass close. Morgan points at shops--

MORGAN P
Luxury Coin Shops for every style
in the most notable Stamped Brands.
Lucci, Changel, Yves St Laurfranc.

THE CLOTHES ARE ALL MADE FROM DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS OF BILLS, SOME ARE FOREIGN BILLS with colorful patterns.

BIG AL
(not interested at all)
Where can a fella go for a good
Pinch and Polish?

MORGAN P
The Pinch N Polish Salons are--

BIG AL
Salons? What kinda Penny am I?!

DAWN P
(simply amazed)
SHOPPING IS THE COOLEST THING EVER!
How's it work, how do I buy stuff?

MORGAN P
That's where I come in, I'm your
Personal Teller or PT. Collectibles
are allotted Credit based on their
Grading. What's yours...?

They all look at one another, unsure.

DAWN P
Grade... A...?

MORGAN P
(confused then giggles)
Ohh, that was funny, I get it.

EDDY P
Listen, Lil Wheaty, keep a secret?

MORGAN P
I'm not really allowed to, but...

She looks around and shrugs.

EDDY P
None of them have ever been Graded.

MORGAN P
(totally confused)
If you have no Grading how did you
get into Silver City-- You're the
coins they're looking for!

Eddy calms her down, COINS START LOOKING AT THEM, curious.

JOHNNY P
(sharp whisper)
We're here to save Liberty.

MORGAN P
Which one? What denomination?

JOHNNY P
The one who showed up before us.

BIG AL
Never met her.

EDDY P
You weren't animated yet flat-face.

DAWN P
(totally bummed)
So... no shopping?

MORGAN P
Without a Grading, you're broke.

MORE WEALTHY COINS start noticing the odd group, whispering.

BIG AL
I think they're onto us.

EDDY P
(voice getting louder)
OK MY FINE COLLECTIBLES, before we
spend all that Credit on designer
duds, let me show you how the under
class lives. Pennies! Disgusting,
tarnished, unpolished!

Eddy leads them over toward the PENNY SLOTS ALONG THE WALL.

EDDY P (CONT'D)
 JUST OVER HERE, see this penny
 sized slot in the wall, this is for
 those non-Graded, lazy, no good--
 (suddenly shouts out)
 --TUCK AND ROLL!!!

Eddy PULLS HIS ARMS AND LEGS IN, tucking his HEAD DOWN then
 dives into the slot, disappearing. They all look at each
 other baffled, Big Al is NOT going to fit.

BIG AL
 No chance I'll fit in that slot.

JOHNNY P
 Where did he just go...?

MORGAN P
 Penny Slots go to Pennytown. This
 one goes to the Copper Refinery.

JOHNNY P
 Where's the Copper Refinery?

MORGAN P
 (she just said it)
 Pennytown.

The CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD STEPS UP, polished and imposing.

CAPTAIN HALF
 I'll need your ledger numbers.

MORGAN P
 P4201873 at your service! My
 Collectible friends here are New
 Arrivals on tour, they have not
 been assigned ledger numbers yet.

CAPTAIN HALF
 No Ledger Numbers? So they haven't
 been Graded? Right this way then.

Several other HALF-DOLLAR GUARDS start to shuffle over--

MIRANDA P (O.C.)
 (very confident woman)
 At ease Heavy D, they're with me.

CAPTAIN HALF
 (unhappy to see her)
 Well, well the Collectible Wheaty.

Sally Liberty, polished and draped in HIGH FASHION APPAREL, walks up with MIRANDA, a STUDIOUS 1909 WHEAT-BACK PENNY.

MIRANDA P
Names Miranda, *silver-back*.

LINCOLN'S PROFILE on her blouse, IN GOD WE TRUST across her COLLAR, 1909 on her tummy; LIBERTY written above the date.

She is VERY SURE of herself.

MIRANDA P (CONT'D)
I'm more valuable then you will
ever be, see...? Collectible!

On her back is written across her shoulders E PLURIBUS UNUM, a WHEAT STALK DOWN EACH ARM, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA on her lower back, ONE CENT stamped in the center.

CAPTAIN HALF
(not giving in to her)
They don't have Ledger Numbers.

MIRANDA P
Harassing Pennies? There's Laws
against that. Want to be Flipped?

She POINTS TO THE TOP OF SILVER TOWER, the Guard is uneasy.

CAPTAIN HALF
Get them Graded or get them gone.

The Guards leave them be, for now. Johnny hugs Sally, who isn't sure why he is so excited to see her.

MIRANDA P
Let's roll, they change their minds
like they change their polish.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, HIGH END FASHION SHOP - NIGHT

Rush and Apolla are busy shopping away, PILES OF CLOTHES HELD BY THE SHOP WORKER, while Matson eagerly loiters by the door.

MS. RUSH
Ohhhh my, Coco Channel scarf! I'll
take two for me, one for the dog.

APOLLA
Don't I get one?!

MS. RUSH
Uhg, fine, four of them.

GENE SUDDENLY WALKS IN THE SHOP, sweating and stressed out.

MR. MATSON
Finally! What's the word?

GENE
Found the Liberty Cap, no Fugio.

MR. MATSON
How am I supposed to pay for my
honey-bunny's shopping sprees?!

GENE
I have every cent on it. If that
coin shows its head, I'll know.

MR. MATSON
Gene, you were born with the gift
of Money Talk, the only one in our
family besides Murph to get it.

GENE
It's a curse, trust me.

MR. MATSON
A curse that keeps us rich!

Matson GRABS GENE, gripping his collar tightly-- Walking him
back out the door and SHOVING HIM AWAY.

MR. MATSON (CONT'D)
(quiet intensity)
Imbedded in that tiny token is the
Twelfth Bit! With it, we can re-
mint the Master Coin, Gene!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

Gene walks down the street, DETERMINED. He PASSES THE PET
SHOP, the LAST OF A DOZEN SNAKES slips through the glass,
snaking to the STORM GRATE where Baleful slithers down.

BALEFUL
Coiiiinssssss ssssooooo sssshiny.

EXT. SILVER CITY ELEVATED PARKLAND - NIGHT

The ELEVATED PARK LANDS are a MIRROR OF CENTRAL PARK except
nature is SCULPTED FROM COPPER and finely polished.

UPPER CLASS COUPLE COINS stroll leisurely, holding hands, as they pass a SKATEBOARD PARK where NICKELS and DIMES ride COPPER SKATEBOARDS, sparks fly when they do grinds.

YOUNG PENNY'S clap, A SIGN READ: **PENNY'S NOT ALOUD ON RAMPS!**

THERE ARE MANY 'WE ARE ONE' SCRATCHES. Worker Pennies BUFF AND POLISH THE SCRATCHES away as best they can.

Worker Pennies stare in wonder at Johnny, Big Al, Dawn, Morgan, Miranda, and Sally as they pass by, walking toward a HIGH OVERLOOK of the distant MOLTEN COPPER RIVER SMELT.

JOHNNY P
(excited to Sally)
So glad you're safe. We're here to
rescue you. After we find Eddy.

SALLY P
(totally oblivious)
Rescue me? From what...?

JOHNNY P
This place! It's horrible here.

They all look around, seems like a TOTAL PENNY PARADISE.

MIRANDA P
It's wonderful! Best place ever!

SALLY P
Especially for collectibles! I have
such good Grading I was given E-C.

BIG AL
Exceptional Coinage?

MIRANDA P
Endless Credit, means she's rich.

MORGAN P
I advise against using Credit.

MIRANDA P
You always have to in Coinage,
Credit's all there is.

Johnny stares at Sally who has an ODD SPARKLE in her eyes.

JOHNNY P
What happened? You seem different.

MORGAN P
Newly Mesmerized. It's required for
all Collectibles these days. It's
like a soft memory wipe.

JOHNNY P
(again to Sally)
You mean you don't remember me...?

SALLY P
Sure do, just don't care anymore.

Sally wanders over to a ROW OF GOLDEN ROSES on COPPER BUSHES,
Dawn, Miranda, and Morgan join her, examining their beauty.

JOHNNY P
This is bad... Very bad.

BIG AL
Sign me up! Big Al, rich, round,
and ready to rock and roll!

Big Al SPINS AROUND, playing the AIR GUITAR--

JOHNNY P
Don't get *mesmerized* by all this,
remember what we are walking on.

Al looks down at the polished COPPER COBBLESTONES, seeing his
own reflection in them, he realizes--

BIG AL
Pennies...? This whole place is
made from us? And by us?

EDDY P
Not when Coinage was originally
built, but in 2000, they started
smelting out of Circulation Coins.

Big Al is suddenly horrified--

BIG AL
It's a crypt! A graveyard! The
horror of it!

JOHNNY P
Calm down, Al, breath. I'm sure
they don't use Animated Pennies.

MORGAN P (O.S.)
They do. Started three years ago.

They turn to find little Half-Cent standing there.

MORGAN P (CONT'D)
 There were too many of us so any
 Penny minted pre '94, *number's up*.

MIRANDA P
 (reassuring them)
 Unless you're Collectible.

BIG AL
 Doesn't sound very fair.

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Gene sits at a SECRETARY'S DESK OFF TO THE SIDE, on the wall are COIN SLOTS OF VARYING DENOMINATION. He stares at the slots, waiting-- Finally BOBBY C SLIPS OUT of a slot, spinning to a stop on the desk in front of Gene.

GENE
 Well?! What's the news?!

BOBBY C
 Sorry, Master, no news yet.

GENE
 Your eyes, what's wrong with them?

Bobby C seems to also have a hint of TWINKLE TO HIS STARE.

GENE (CONT'D)
 Who mesmerized you...?

BOBBY C
 (in a daze)
 Not sure what you're on about.

GENE
 You unpolished worth-less scrap of
 swarf! I have 11 of the 12 Bits,
 that Fugio is the final link!

BOBBY C
 No need for name callin' now.

Gene grabs Bobby, staring at him, lost in a thought...

GENE
 I had him once, in my hand, many
 years ago. I tried to cut that bit
 out, but he heated up, he burnt me!

He shows the TERRIFIED ENGLISH PENCE a BURT FINGER--

BOBBY C

Apologies for his actions, I'll be
sure to find the lad for ya, give
'im a proper good pounding.

Gene SMASHES A HAMMER by Bobby who FARTS COPPER DUST.

GENE

Don't touch him! He is the Chain
Coin. With his power, I'll put my
Cousin Bill under my control, then
his staff at the bank, then other
banks, finally, all of Wall Street!

Bobby leaps out of Gene's hand and into a LARGE PENNY SLOT.

BOBBY C

You can count on me, sir!

EXT. SILVER CITY RAISED PARKLAND OVERLOOK - NIGHT

Johnny, Big Al, Dawn, Miranda, Morgan, and Sally arrive at a
great MOLTEN COPPER RIVER that separates all the other
burrows from PENNYTOWN. At the far end of Pennytown is the
SMELTING FACTORY, which GLOWS ORANGE-YELLOW like a morning
sun that never rises. Sally steps up beside Johnny--

JOHNNY P

Almost looks like a sunrise.

SALLY P

I've never seen a sunrise.

JOHNNY P

I'll make sure you do.

A LOUD ALARM GOES OFF and GIANT TWIRLING LIGHT spins from the
VAULT ROOF high above the city. Coins looks around, alarmed--

ELECTRONIC VOICE (V.O.)

UNGRADED COINS HAVE ENTERED
COINAGE, ALL COINS ARE OBLIGATED TO
REQUEST LEDGER NUMBERS AND TURN
THEM IN TO THE SILVER GUARD.

WHEN THE VOICE STOPS, THE LIGHT ALSO STOPS FLASHING.

SALLY P

Great, I'm with wanted pennies.

JOHNNY P

We only came here to save you!

MORGAN P
If they catch you, they may have
you Flipped anyway.

BIG AL
I love a good flipping!

MIRANDA P
Not off the Silver Tower! Some
coins bounce right into the river.

JOHNNY P
Where can we go that's safe...?

SALLY P
I have a condo in the Silver Tower.

DAWN P
(wants to go bad)
Hiding in plain sight, I love it.

MIRANDA P
They check Ledger Numbers at the
door, impossible to enter without
one. Safest place is Pennytown.

Johnny points at the MOLTEN COPPER RIVER down below.

JOHNNY P
How do we get there over that?!

MORGAN P
Penny slots.

BIG AL
I'm too big, remember...?

SALLY P
I have an idea...

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM - NIGHT

The sludge river flows, it is dark and gloomy. A GROUP OF
COLLECTOR COINS walk along, one is freshly polished, shining
brightly. The Coin sings proudly, swinging it's baton--

COLLECTOR 1
Penny, penny pick it up and all day
long you'll have good luck.

Out of darkness, a YELLOW EYES APPEAR... The COLLECTORS STOP.

COLLECTOR 1 (CONT'D)
 Oi... That a rat...?

Another PAIR OF EYES, then another, and another-- FOLLOWED BY
 12 VIPERS LUNGING TOWARD THEM, eating them up.

EXT. SILVER CITY INDUSTRIAL ALLEY - NIGHT

Johnny, Dawn, and Big Al hide behind a dumpster with Morgan.
 Miranda and Sally walk up with WAY TOO MANY SHOPPING BAGS--

DAWN P
 (way too excited)
 I really, really want a dress!

BIG AL
 Hope they got me a Zoot suit.

Johnny rolls his eyes as they start going through the bag.

EXT. SILVER CITY SHOPPING ESPLANADE - NIGHT

The evening is BUSY as MONEY NEVER SLEEPS, Coins go about
 their business, SILVER GUARDS WATCH. From around the corner
 come Sally, Miranda, Morgan, then Dawn, DRESSED LIKE A GOTH.

Big Al proudly wears a Zoot Suit, Johnny looks like a FAMOUS
 RAPPER, large SILVER CHAIN around his neck.

SALLY P
 I'll get us to the Carriage Station
 and take you to Pennytown myself.

JOHNNY P
 I came here to save you, now you're
 saving me? That's ironic.

SALLY P
 Hanging out with you could cost me
 my Grading, I just need you gone.

JOHNNY P
 (slightly offended)
 Pardon me princess, don't let my
 dull tarnish rub off on you.

EXT. SILVER CITY CARRIAGE STATION PLATFORM - NIGHT

HALF-DOLLAR GUARDS stand at the platform entrance, checking
 Ledger Numbers as Coins enter. Sally and Miranda walk up
 confidently while Morgan, Johnny, Dawn, and Big Al are not.

MIRANDA P
Step aside! Sally Liberty is late
for her Ascension Party!

Miranda attempts to brush the Guards aside but they stop her.

CAPTAIN HALF
I know you three, these three, not
so much. Need their Ledger Numbers.

SALLY P
They're my entourage, they don't
have any, I don't allow it.

CAPTAIN HALF
That's illegal.

SALLY P
I retract that.

CAPTAIN HALF
Too late.

The Guard takes out his RING CUFFS about to slap them on when
Johnny quickly RUBS HIS HANDS VIGOROUSLY, heating them up.
They shine brightly and he aims the LIGHT AT THE GUARDS--

JOHNNY P
No need of Ledger Numbers, we are
an entourage of *useless* pennies.

The glow fades but not before it SNAPS SALLY from her stupor.

CAPTAIN HALF
We don't need their Ledger Numbers,
they're useless, let them pass.

They hurry along, but Miranda and Morgan are no longer
Mesmerized, coming back to reality is weird for them.

MIRANDA P
What just happened? I'm not happy
anymore. What did you do to me?

SALLY P
(feeling strange)
What was that light you made...?

MORGAN P
(suddenly remembers all)
I remember everything now! Eddy was
my friend! I used to love dancing!

JOHNNY P
I broke the Spell you were under.

Sally looks embarrassed, shocked by her behavior.

SALLY P
That explains a lot.

JOHNNY P
(nodding to the guards)
Spells only last so long on Silver.

The Carriage pulls up, slowly, the Guards start coming out of Johnny's spell, looking over at them, but it's too late.

CAPTAIN HALF
STOP THAT CARRIAGE!!!

OTHER GUARDS start running over to them--

MIRANDA P
Elijah! Get us out of here!!

The Driver, Elijah P, sees the Guards headed their way as they pile into the Carriage, pointing to a D CELL BATTERY.

ELIJAH
They'll never catch us, I modified
this baby. Lock up and hold steady!

THE GUARDS GRAB SALLY LIBERTY and yank her away, Miranda is hauled out just when Elijah releases the brake.

JOHNNY P
STOP THE CARRIAGE!!!

The Carriage takes off down the track, SPARKS FLYING--

ELIJAH
WE'LL COME BACK FOR HER!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY TRACKS - NIGHT

The Carriage careens along between tracks as GUARD CARTS COME UP FROM BEHIND, chasing them. From one track to the next, above and below the city, they are chased until they escape down a MINE CART TRACK into the heart of the COPPER REFINERY.

ELIJAH
THE REFINERY! WE'LL HIDE THERE!

JOHNNY P
That's where Eddy went! Let's go!

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM VAULT ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The VIPERS SLITHER from darkness, filling the VAULT LOBBY with their scaly selves. The Baleful SNIFFS the door.

BALEFUL

I ssssmell ssoooo many sssshiny
coinssss. We mussst get in.

A SMALLER, IRIDESCENT SNAKE crawls to the NUMBERED LOCK, resting his ear against the vault, he SPINS THE DIAL.

IRIDESCENSE

I'll crack the ssssssafe, Baleful.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT

The night is cold, the streets are empty. Mr. Dale and Zack walk out of a NEW YORK DELI AND DINER, Zack still carrying the box, sadly. His father feels awful--

MR. DALE

We'll find more pennies, promise.

ZACK

These pennies were different, at
least Eddy was, and that new one.

MR. DALE

Eddy...?

ZACK

Mr. Shiny, my favorite. His real
name is Eddy, he told me himself.

MR. DALE

Don't start with this again, that's
why I don't let you go to Uncle
Murph's anymore. Coins can't talk.

ZACK

Some can, and that new one, the
Fugio Cent, he could too! I just
don't ever talk back to them.

ACROSS THE STREET IS THE NUMISMATIC BUILDING, looming over. Dale stops Zack, leaning in to him, very serious now.

MR. DALE

My older brother, Murph had to be
committed for talking to coins, you
want to end up in a Nut-house?

Zack shakes his head 'no'. Dale pats his back, walking off.

MR. DALE (CONT'D)

There will be no more talk of
talking coins then. Come now, let's
see if Uncle Bill has any news.

INT. PENNYTOWN COPPER REFINERY MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

A HUGE REFINERY glows hot, HALF MELTED PENNIES work the HOT
COPPER covered in DRIED SPLASHES like WART COVERED TROLLS.

MINE CARTS filled with GROUND METAL (swarf) are lined up on
TRACKS ENTERING FROM SIX TUNNELS, the one labeled Silver City
FILLS WITH LIGHT as Sally's Carriage ROLLS OUT, SPARKS
FLYING. Elijah pulls the break hard, MORE SPARKS FLY--

The Carriage skids to a stop before smashing the mine carts.

In the refinery, the HEAT IS UNBEARABLE, able to melt coins
after prolonged exposure. Coins here have little time left.

ELIJAH

Welcome to Penny Purgatory, where
out of circulation coins come to
work until they're smelt. Awful.

Johnny, Dawn, Big Al, and Morgan hop out under the watchful
gaze of the REFINERY WORKERS. Dawn and Morgan are scared as
the workers walk toward them, limping and ugly.

HUNCHBACK

COLLECTIBLES?! DOWN HERE?!

The crew stand there in their RIDICULOUS OUTFITS.

PEGLEG

I hate Collectibles.

ONE EYE

Never seen one before.

PEGLEG

Let's get a closer look.

NOW ALL THE PLANT WORKERS start stalking over to them.

DAWN P

(extremely nervous)
Are they going to eat us...?

JOHNNY P

Only snakes eat pennies.

BIG AL
And kids!

Elijah hops down from the Carriage in his DRIVER OUTFIT.

ELIJAH
BROTHERS AND SISTERS! I AM ELIJAH!
HEAR ME! I am "History in our
hands"! I am like the Holy Grail of
pennies! The Powerful Peak! I was
about to be Ascended but disguised
as a Carriage Driver, I escaped.

The WORKER COINS all start looking at one another, murmuring
to themselves, looking at Elijah totally confused.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)
Struck at the American mintage in
1792, after the first Mint Act...?

DAWN P
Don't think they know who you are.

ELIJAH
(can't believe it)
I was supposed to be auctioned at
this year's American Numismatic
Association World Fair of Money?

MORGAN P
(to the workers)
He's our driver.

Still nothing, NO ONE KNOWS HIM. He tries ONE LAST TIME.

Elijah pulls back his coat, he has SCRATCHED THE WORDS **WE ARE
ONE** in SYMBOL FORM; a 'W' for "WE", the CENTER TRIANGLE
CROSSED like an 'A' for "ARE" with a CIRCLE AROUND BOTH
representing the 'O' in ONE, INTO HIS SIDE. W.A.O.

ELIJAH
FROM MY SIDE I PULL MY SCRIBE!!!

Then FROM HIS SIDE he pulls a STEEL PENCIL hidden inside
himself, the TIP DULLED ROUND FROM SCRATCHING.

Eli takes the scribe and CARVES QUICKLY INTO THE COPPER
SIDING OF THE CARRIAGE, '**EL - WE ARE ONE**'.

ELIJAH (CONT'D)
I'm EL! 'WE ARE ONE'! I'm the Chain
Coin! The Twelfth Bit!

PEGLEG

I see your scratches everywhere!

HUNCHBACK

(not quite certain)
You're the Twelfth Bit?!

BUBBLES

That's just a legend.

ONE EYE

HE *IS* THE LEGEND!!! He even has
Scratches in Silver City!

PEGLEG

I was a Scratcher, now look at me?

Pegleg is DENTED, HALF MELTED, COVERED IN SWARF.

ELIJAH

We'll all be smelted down if the
Silver Guard catches us.

HUNCHBACK

Don't worry, we'll send 'em on a
money chase they won't soon forget.

ONE EYE

Take Track 6, the carriage stays,
mining rails won't take the weight.
'Sides, we'll use it as bait.

The worker points to a beat up worker's HAND PUMP TROLLY.
Johnny and the others get on board--

HUNCHBACK

Anything else you need let us know.

JOHNNY P

(thinks about this)
You know Eddy P? Was here earlier?

ELIJAH

Which Eddy?

JOHNNY P

How many could there be?

ELIJAH

(so worker Pennies)
Raise your hand if you go by Eddy?

About TWENTY-FOUR workers out of 80 RAISE THEIR HANDS.

JOHNNY P

This one's a perfectly minted 1857--

PEGLEG

(cutting him off)

OH MR. SHINY?! Sure, passed through
real tarnished like, looked rough.

ONE EYE

He went over Sludge Creek a for a
cheap pinch and polish.

BIG AL

(suddenly excited)

Well, what are we waiting for?!

PEGLEG

Can't go over there like that.

DAWN P

Like what...? I look fabulous.

ONE EYE

That's the problem.

ELIJAH

I see your point, we do stand out.

SOME OF THE WORKERS COME OVER carrying piles of dirty,
WORKING CLASS CLOTHES, tattered and torn.

MORGAN P

(nodding to Dawn)

Yeah, we're not boys.

Several other unrecognizable women step up GIVING THEM OLD
CLOTHES. The TIN CLOTHING are designed like the WILD WEST.

BUBBLES

(gruff female voice)

Neither are we.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

In the POLISHED MARBLE LOBBY, Zack sits alone on a bench,
sad. SAM AND SUE, A COUPLE in their 60's, walk past him.

SAM

Zack? Look how big you are!

ZACK

(very sad)

Hi Sam, hi Sue.

SUE
Ohhh Honey, what's wrong...?

Sam and Sue sit with Zack.

ZACK
I lost my Collectibles and one of them was a *Fugio Cent*.

SAM
(impressed but concerned)
A Fugio?! Where's your father?

ZACK
He's checking if he's been found.

Sue thinks of this, sorry for his loss.

SUE
As Money Managers, we know how much it hurts to lose money, especially money worth more than it's value.

Zack is confused, too distraught to think. Sam pats his back.

SAM
Like your Uncle Murph always said, "It's consistent deposits, not interest, where you begin to pinch your pennies and amass a fortune."

ZACK
I can't hang out with Murph anymore. He talks to coins.

SUE
Nothing wrong with that. In our own way we speak with money too. Murph taught us that, "When we save frugally, we have the opportunity to spend or give to alleviate the troubles of the less fortunate."

SAM
Maybe someone even less fortunate than you found the Fugio.

Sam and Sue rise, readying to leave-- Zack tears up.

ZACK
Just, my mom's sick again and we--

SUE

(cutting in, concerned)
Lilly's ill? Dale hasn't mentioned
a word! You tell him to call us,
we'll figure out a way to help.

SAM

I've always had my eye on that
Elbert G. Combe Grandfather clock
of your Mother's, I would pay ten
thousand dollars for it.

ZACK

(feeling hopeful)
That's a lot! My dad hates that
clock, it goes off all the time.

SUE

That's what clocks are supposed to
do, remind you time is passing.

SAM

Take care Zack, remember, "With any
great struggle, you can survive
your dilemma by finding the
solution inside that same struggle
you're suffering through".

Sam and Sue happily walk off TO THE ELEVATORS, getting on one
as another opens and DALE STEPS OUT, sad look on his face.

ZACK

(sadly to himself)
But there's always a cost involved.

EXT. PENNYTOWN COPPER REFINERY MAIN ENTERANCE - NIGHT

The refinery is LIKE A MID EVIL VICTORIAN NIGHTMARE,
beautiful yet frightening. Covered in Gargoyles and ugly
faces surrounding the gaping, MOUTH-LIKE ENTRANCE.

TWELVE HALF DOLLAR GUARDS ARRIVE IN A TUBE TROLLY, filing out
and lining up-- A CAPTAIN steps up and addresses them.

LIEUTENANT HALF

BROTHER COINS! WE GO IN AS A CHAIN,
WE RETURN AS A CHAIN!

They all charge into the refinery, all 22 of them.

SERGEANT HALF

NO COIN LEFT BEHIND!!!

INT. PENNYTOWN COPPER REFINERY MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The Penny Workers have put Johnny, Morgan, Dawn, and Big Al's clothes on FOUR FAKE PENNIES made from CLIPPINGS MELDED TOGETHER and POSITIONED IN THE CARRIAGE on a DISPOSAL TRACK.

LIEUTENANT HALF
DON'T FEAR THE HEAT, YOU ARE
SILVER! SHINE LIKE IT!

THE SILVER GUARD arrives, NOT DOING WELL in the heat. The PENNY WORKERS walk from the CARRIAGE and SURROUND THE GUARD.

HUNCHBACK
SILVER GUARD DON'T HAVE AUTHORITY
HERE! SCRAM BEFORE WE SMELT YOU!

SERGEANT HALF
YOU THERE! FILTHY PENNY! THOSE
COLLECTIBLES ARE UNDER ARREST!

PEGLEG
We hate Collectibles, have at it.

One of the Penny Workers secretly RELEASES THE CARRIAGE BRAKE and it takes off down the track. The SILVER GUARD give chase.

LIEUTENANT HALF
STOP! IN THE NAME OF THE SYSTEM!!

EXT. PENNYTOWN COPPER REFINERY DISPOSAL TRACKS - NIGHT

A series of zig-zagging TRACKS lead to SWARF PILES and others to DUMPING PLATFORMS over the COPPER RIVER. MINE CARTS filled with waste travel the tracks, hitting a STOPPER and FLIPPING SWARF INTO THE RIVER, QUICKLY MELTING into flowing metal.

The SILVER GUARD have COMMANDEERED AND SELF PUMP MINE CART.

SERGEANT HALF
WE'LL NEVER CATCH THEM LIKE THIS!

Sally's Carriage come ROCKETING DOWN THE TRACK, smacking Mine Carts left and right, SPARKS FLYING FROM THE UNDERCARRIAGE.

LIEUTENANT HALF
Take the Speed Loop! If we don't
catch those Coins we'll be spent!

They CATCH A SPEED LOOP which rockets them around the TRACK.

They skip over another track, nearly hitting a Mine Cart, KNOCKING THE CARRIAGE onto one of the DUMPING TRACKS.

All the Silver Guard freak out--

LIEUTENANT HALF (CONT'D)
NO! NO! NO! NOT THAT TRACK!!!

They lasso the Carriage with a chain and PULL THE BREAK but the CARRIAGE AND PASSENGERS fly off the dump ramp, pulling the Cart with the Silver Guard along.

LIEUTENANT HALF (CONT'D)
ABANDON MINE CART!!!

The SILVER GUARD DIVE OFF, scraping themselves badly, watching in horror as Johnny, Morgan, Dawn, Big Al, and Elijah slowly melt away, never to be Ascended.

SERGEANT HALF
We're in big trouble aren't we?

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

A HUGE CROWD OF COINS HAVE GATHERED in a central area below the GREAT SILVER TOWER. In the center is a GIANT CHRISTMAS TREE MADE FROM ALL AMOUNTS OF DOLLAR BILLS. Hanging from the metal branches DOZENS OF UNANIMATED COINS, like ornaments.

On a stage is Sally and Miranda, GUARDED BY HALF DOLLARS. CENTER STAGE is a FEMALE SILVER DOLLAR BABYLONIAN PRIESTESS with another SILVER DOLLAR EGYPTIAN HIGH PRIEST.

BABYLONIAN
The 15th night of August, 1971 the United States chose to no longer redeem currency for Gold or Silver.

THE ENTIRE CROWD BOOS LOUDLY--

EGYPTIAN
For thousands of years our value has been secured and by magical means we Coins are given life. What animation do these *paper bills* have when the Light of the Golden Bits shine upon them?! Behold!

From two GIANT DOUBLE DOORS that crank open emerge a GROUP OF PRIESTLY SILVER DOLLARS carrying a GOLDEN BOX with glass windows, inside the box are 11 TRIANGULAR GOLD BITS.

Beneath the box are 2 DOUBLE A BATTERIES connected to electrodes which sends a ELECTRIC CHARGE INTO THE BOX.

Sally closes her eyes, covering Miranda's with her hands.

BABYLONIAN

These Eleven Golden Bits give
conscious life to new Coins that we
collect. Tokens of real Value,
unlike lifeless paper currency.

Sally leans over to Miranda--

SALLY P

(whispering seriously)
Do not look at the light.

EGYPTIAN

When the 12th Bit is found, the
Alchemist's Coin shall be re-minted
and with it's power the Minds of
Man shall be ours once again!

THE GOLDEN BITS VIBRATE, GIVING OFF A MAGNIFICENT GLOW that
mesmerizes the crowd and ANIMATES THE COINS HANGING FROM THE
TREE as THE CROWD CHEERS their awakening and shining.

CROWD ALL TOGETHER

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! WAKE UP! WAKE UP!

MIRANDA P

Can I look now...?

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, COINAGE SCRAP YARD - NIGHT

Johnny and Big Al work the PUMP TROLLEY as Eli, Dawn, and
Morgan look across a SEPTIC, METALLIC, SLUDGE CREEK, on the
other side is a CITY OF SCRAP METAL, like THE WILD WEST.

The town is built along the DARK STEEL WALL OF THE VAULT,
stacked up high, very MAKESHIFT but remarkably sturdy.

In the distance, they see the RESONATING LIGHT FROM THE
ASCENSION CEREMONY pulsating from beneath the SILVER TOWER.

passing a RUSTY TIN SIGN, SOLDERED INTO IT IS: "**CITY OF LOOSE
CHANGE, Empty your Pockets when you Leave**"

JOHNNY P

What's going on in Silver City...?

ELIJAH

The Ascension and Mesmerization
Ritual, they're getting ready to
send Liberty to the Vault Master.

Johnny P pumps even harder, SPEEDING THEM ALONG the tracks.

Bobby looks up and through the crowd see THREE FAMILIAR FACES but can't place them. He is distracted by his mates.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, MAIN STREET - NIGHT

THE MAIN STREET has MERCURY SALOONS, PINCH AND POLISH PARLORS, CASINOS, BLACKSMITH SHOP, THEATER, etc. COINS from ALL OVER THE WORLD, all scratched up and dented.

JOHNNY P

We need to blend in somewhere.

BIG AL

I see the perfect place!

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, MAIN STREET - NIGHT

A PUB ACROSS THE STREET called '**CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK**', it's a GIANT PORCELAIN PIGGY BANK that was broken and GLUED BACK TOGETHER, now functioning as a SALOON AND PERFORMANCE HALL.

Big Al grabs Johnny, Dawn, Eli, and Morgan, dragging them--

BIG AL

A piggybank! Haven't been in one of those since the sixties!

They dodge MAKESHIFT CARTS, COINS ON DUNG BEETLES, OLD COINS, NEW COINS, mean ones, nice ones, from all over the World.

JOHNNY P

Definitely looks like locals there.

DAWN P

Smells like them too.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK - NIGHT

The PIGGYBANK HAS BEEN BUILT OUT to be a working pub, inside and out, even has WRAP AROUND BALCONIES where Coins loiter.

Johnny, Dawn, Morgan, Big Al, and Eli gather out front. 1930's JAZZ MUSIC Music and LOUD SHOUTS come from inside.

AT THE ENTRANCE A FLATNOSE PENNY punches HOLES IN PATRONS for entry. SOME COINS have TIN CARDS for the HOLE PUNCHER.

A SIGN ABOVE THE ENTRANCE READS:

"One Night only! MOSHE SHEKEL: Magick and Entertainment!"

ELIJAH

Moshe Shekel?! He's my hero! I have to see him, he's the whole reason the 'We Are One' movement started!

JOHNNY P

We need to find Eddy P. Mr. Shiny?

BIG AL

(ignoring Johnny)

Maybe he's in there! Let's go!

Morgan stops them--

MORGAN P

We can't, they charge at the door.

ELIJAH

(almost desperate)

Does anyone have any credit?! Still paying for the last time I saw him.

He reveals a TINY ROUND HOLE in his side.

MORGAN P

(sheepishly)

I may have some credit.

A NICKEL IS THROWN FROM THE SALOON, into the street, SPINNING TO A STOP, clipped to pieces from GAMBLING HIMSELF.

MORGAN P (CONT'D)

But I recommend against using it.

ELIJAH

Ohhhhh we're using it alright!

Morgan offers a TIN CARD, FLATNOSER punches HOLES IN IT.

JOHNNY P

Guys! We're here to find Eddy so we can save Liberty! Focus here!

BOBBY C AND HIS CREW watch them enter from ACROSS THE STREET.

BOBBY C

Them coins looks familiars to me.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, BERWYN, NEW YORK STATE - NIGHT

The FARM HOUSE HAS FIRELIGHT flickering from inside, Murph stands on the porch, staring at the distance, wondering.

On the porch railing sits Mr. Silver, feeling horrible.

MR. SILVER

(very convincing)

I don't understand *how* the snake got in, makes no sense to me. We followed it's trail to the property line, could go on forever.

MURPH

Every time he's been eaten he ends up in the barn, with all the other snakes, until recently. Like the snakes are trying to take him away.

Murph considers this, a DARK CLOUD COMING OVER HIM.

MURPH (CONT'D)

Should have done this long ago.

Murph grabs a SHOTGUN FROM THE PORCH and pockets a bunch of shell, wandering off toward the barn, VERY DETERMINED.

MR. SILVER

(maintaining innocence)

Maybe he ran away...?

MURPH

(stares daggers at Silver)

I think he was *sent* away by someone else who can talk to snakes.

Murph snags a FLASHLIGHT FROM THE STEPS and hurries to the barn. Mr. Silver watches him, his shine waning. He starts SCRATCHING SOMETHING INTO THE RAILING, furiously--

MR. SILVER

(realizing his mistake)

I'll find Johnny. I promise.

He finishes, feeling good about what's written. SUDDENLY FROM THE BARN A LOUD BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

From WINDOWS AND CRACKS IN THE WOOD SHINE FLASHES OF GUNPOWDER as Murph rids the barn of snakes.

Mr. Silver leaps off the railing and HURRIES INTO THE NIGHT. ON THE RAILING is scratched, **'Won't return without Johnny'**.

INT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK- NIGHT

The ROUNDED PIG SHAPE creates a domed ceiling with a BRASS CHANDELIER hanging from the CENTER COIN SLOT illuminating a tin dance floor surrounded by SEATING, a BAR, and STAGE.

Morgan nods to Johnny, Dawn, and Big Al, who is in heaven watching a BEAUTIFUL 1930's FRENCH FRANC singing on stage.

COUPLE COINS SPIN TOGETHER, in 1930's style get-ups--

BIG AL
(to Morgan, sweetly)
Wanna take a spin with a fella?

MORGAN P
(really wanting to)
Dancing isn't my thing anymore.

Morgan slumps, Elijah spots an EMPTY TABLE--

ELIJAH
How high's your credit limit? They
have Poker! Roulette! Craps! Always
use credit, never bet yourself.

INTERNATIONAL COINS GAMBLE, SNIPPING BITS OFF and BETTING THEMSELVES. A DESPERATE COIN throws his body on the table.

DESPERATE COIN
I'M ALL IN!

ELIJAH
Knew this Silver Dollar named
Morgan, bet all but one leg on a
game a Craps. One roll of dice and
he was hopping into Sludge Creek.

Coins gulp MERCURY MEAD, it LEAK FROM CRACKS in their surface. Big Al calls out to a BULGARIAN LEVA waitress.

BIG AL
Boy I'm tarnished. Let's buy a
drink! Round of Polish please!

BULGARIAN LEVA
(heavy female accent)
Don't serve Polish, just Mercury.

MORGAN P
(to the waitress)
NO MERCURY! NO DRINKS!

DAWN P
So what? No more credit...?

MORGAN P
I could get Flipped for this!

BOBBY and his FOUR FLATNOSERS enter, Coins back away as they cross to a BACK TABLE where a group of WELL DRESSED DUETCHMARKS and JAPANESE YEN are sitting. Johnny watches.

DAWN P
So we do have more credit?!

BIG AL
WAITRESS! ROUND OF MERCURY!

MORGAN P
NO! Mercury is terrible for you!

A PASSING QUARTER, SEEPING WITH MERCURY, babbles insanely.

JOHNNY P
Can we not forget why we're here?

BIG AL
To get a Pinch and Polish?

JOHNNY P
To save Liberty!

ELIJAH
Not sure she's worth saving bro.

Johnny is about to rebuke him when the SINGING STOPS, LIGHTS GO OUT, and a SPOTLIGHT hits the stage. An ANCIENT SHEKEL magically appears in a PUFF OF SMOKE, Mint date of AD 66.

SHOW ANNOUNCER
(deep bellowing voice)
Ladies and Cents, all the way from
Ancient Israel, Minted in 66 AD in
Jerusalem, beneath the Temple of
Solomon. The one and only! The
never spent! Moshe Shekel!

ON STAGE IN THE BACK GROUND, a TROUPE OF MIME DIMES perform the story on CHANGING SETS in the back ground, SHOWING THE PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT, ZIGGURATS OF BABYLON.

MOSHE SHEKEL
Magic. A craft with its origins in
Ancient Mesopotamia, the land where
the first coin was Minted.

IN A PUFF OF SMOKE, two more COINS APPEAR dressed as the BABYLONIAN PRIESTESS and EGYPTIAN PRIEST, a GREAT METALLIC SERPENT DROPS FROM THE RAFTERS, scaring the crowd.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

6000 years ago, the High Priestess of Babylon and High Priest of Egypt, blended Magic with the Cosmic Serpent's Venom, and Minted the first Magical Golden Coin...

EVERYONE IN THE AUDIENCE is enraptured as MOSHE MAKES A DIME PAINTED GOLD magically appear from nowhere. Crowd captivated by the PERFORMANCE ART and SET CHANGES, Moshe continues--

The Ziggurats and Pyramids FOLD AWAY as the GOLDEN SERPENT explodes into TINFOIL CONFETTI and PRIESTESS and PRIEST VANISH as LIGHTS PROJECT THE ZODIAC ON THE CEILING.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

Forged in the Alchemist's Hearth, melded into a token of exquisite design, then endowed with life!

Moshe MAGICALLY MAKES a DIME PAINTED GOLD float off the stage, he takes TIN RINGS AND PASSES THE COIN through them.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

This Golden Token was able to give *life* to Coins of any denomination and from any land, and thus would these coins be sent back to the Alchemists for *safe keeping*.

In wonder the crowd sees all the COINS ON STAGE NOW together in a row and as they JUMP THROUGH A HOOP they disappear before coming out the other side, a dozen or so.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

The offspring of the Alchemists were filled with greed and each wanted a share of the Coin.

As he is speaking, the GOLDEN DIME lays inside a box and is SAWED SIX TIMES making TWELVE SLICES--

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

The wicked children cut the poor coin into Twelve Bits, each minting a New Coin of their own.

As Moshe LIFTS THE BOX LID, instead of 12 BITS, 12 NEW COINS EMERGE, one after the other, the crowd cheers, amazed.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)
 As years past, the Magical Bits
 were cut from their Tokens and
 collected in a Golden Box.

The COINS PASS BEHIND A THIN VEIL and return from the other
 side a ROW OF LADY COIN ROCKETS, all Nickels. The MEN COINS
 howl out, happy, CLANGING THEIR HANDS TOGETHER.

Moshe OPENS THE BOX back up and the COINETTES ALL MAGICALLY
 FIT INSIDE, Elijah is amazed, everyone is, even Johnny.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)
 As the legend is told, one day, the
 12 Bits will all come together
 again and re-mint the Magic Token.

As the LAST COINETTE enters the box, he closes it, re-opens
 it immediately revealing the ORIGINAL GOLD PAINTED DIME.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)
 I should know, I was one of them!

MOSHE WHIPS BACK his Kaftan revealing a TRIANGULAR SHAPED
 HOLE in his side, a BLUEISH TINGE around the edges.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)
 I am Moshe Shekel and 'WE ARE ONE'!

The CROWD LEAPS TO THEIR FEET, clapping and hooting--

CROWD ALL TOGETHER
 WE ARE ON! WE ARE ONE! WE ARE ONE!

EXT. NEW YORK STATE COUNTRYSIDE, CITY OVERLOOK - NIGHT

ROLLING AT LIGHTENING SPEED, Mr. Silver skips and hops over
 every obstacle expertly, his years of chasing Johnny coming
 in handy. He tries to SKID TO A STOP before pitching over the
 edge of the overlook, but is going too fast. He flies off--

MR. SILVER
 I'm sorry Johnny! I tried!!!

EXT. NEW YORK STATE HIGHWAY, OUTSIDE TOWN - NIGHT

A LARGE OPEN AIR BOX TRUCK travels along the busy road,
 filled with EVENT FURNISHINGS. On the truck is: **American**
"Numismatic Association World Fair of Money, We Save Money!"

Mr. Silver tumbled down, trying to use Johnny's spinning
 technique he LANDS HIMSELF RIGHT IN THE BACK OF THE TRUCK.

MR. SILVER

Oh the luck! I'll be Auctioned now!

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM VAULT ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The snakes are impatiently waiting as Baleful watches his partner in crime try and CRACK THE SAFE to no avail.

BALEFUL

Usssse your tongue!

The IRIDESCENT SNAKE STICKS HIS TONGUE AGAINST THE VAULT, turns the dial, it CLICKS OPEN! Just then, a GROUP OF FLATNOSERS walk up dragging SACKS OF SHINY COINS.

The SNAKES GO INTO A FRENZY as Baleful opens the vault, they SLITHER OFF TO EAT COINS, knocking the door closed.

BALEFUL (CONT'D)

ABSOLUTE MORONSSS! I HATE SSNAKES!

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Mr. Matson paces behind his desk, Gene sits at the MANAGER'S DESK where a series of COIN SLOTS LINE THE WALL next to a VERTICAL BRASS and GLASS VACUUM TUBE, TUBE CHAMBER open.

INSIDE THE TUBE CHAMBER is GENERAL SILVER DOLLAR laying on top of a SMALL PIECE OF PAPER, **Sally P. Liberty's Grading.**

Gene picks up the TINY PAPER, reading it. Dale is perplexed, but Zack sees and hears all, realizing he is NOT crazy.

NO ONE ELSE SEES THE TALKING COIN BUT GENE AND ZACK--

GENERAL SILVER

--then they escaped to Pennytown,
but we have Liberty, she'll be
ascending tonight and should bring
in a pretty penny at auction.

Gene closes the CHAMBER TUBE and SEND IT DOWN with a WOOSH.

MR. MATSON

(very impatient)

WELL?! What's the verdict?!

On the edge of the desk is a BRASS PLAQUE WITH "**M.J. Murphy, Money Manager**" EMBOSSED ON IT.

GENE

Plumbers found the Liberty Cap, but not the others. They'll send her up after she goes through accounting.

Ms. Rush and Apolla sit on a VICTORIAN SOFA with their dog, SHOPPING BAGS SURROUND THEM. Dale is by Zack, stressed.

DALE

Accounting? Are you buying her...?

MS. RUSH

Auction, my dear fellow. Someone has to pay for this. Not to worry, you'll get your ten percent.

INT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK- NIGHT

Elijah and the crowd still chant 'WE ARE ONE', Big Al and Dawn have joined in, Morgan halfheartedly so. Johnny looks at Bobby C with the Deutchmarks and Yen, NONE OF THEM CHANT.

JOHNNY P

I think we should get lost.

BIG AL

A penny's worse nightmare!

Morgan and Dawn see Bobby C and the Collectors looking back.

MORGAN P

I think he means split.

BIG AL

(not approving)

Easy for you to say, *half-cent*.

DAWN P

Not literally, figuratively.

BIG AL

Speaking of figures, yeowza!

The FRENCH FRANC JAZZ SINGER passes-- Big Al starts after her but Johnny pulls him back just as BOBBY C WALKS UP--

BOBBY C

I know I know you, mate.

JOHNNY P

Nope, just passing through.

BOBBY C

Nobody passes through Coinage, you stay forever or get smelted. Less you be a Collectible, in which case we might be able to make a deal.

They all look at one another, uncertain of it being a trap.

MORGAN P

(acting tough)

We don't make deals with Pound Sterling, you got no value here.

Suddenly, ALL THE FOREIGN COINS STOP WHAT THEY ARE DOING and look over at Johnny, Elijah, Dawn, and Morgan. CHAIRS SCOOT BACK as COINS OF VARYING COUNTRIES stand up--

INTALIAN LIRA

(Italian accent)

What about me, uh? No value...?

RUSSIAN RUBAL

(Russian accent)

Maybe we decrease you, flat head?

Just as things are looking bad, MOSHE SHEKEL steps up--

MOSHE SHEKEL

Ladies and cents, my dear friends here are part of my new act! Ignore their attempts at humor, they always fall short. Come-come-come.

Bobby watches as Moshe ushers the foursome backstage. Bobby looks of at the YEN AND DEUTCHEMARK, nodding.

BOBBY C

Feeling a good pounding is afoot.

Yen and Deutchemark go out a SIDE EXIT into an alley, Bobby nods to the OTHER FLATNOSERS who follow him to the back.

INT. CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK, BACK STAGE AREA - NIGHT

Back stage seems even bigger than the front room, filled with back drops, sets, props, and ALL THE COINS from the show.

Moshe leads Johnny, Elijah, Morgan, and Dawn through a curtain away from prying eyes and ears--

MOSHE SHEKEL

You must be the Coins they are looking for. Easy to spot you.

INT. CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK, PRIVATE DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Moshe's dressing room is like entering a BEDOUIN TENT, filled with objects from the outside world, a SILVER SPOON MIRROR, THIMBLE, BEJEWELED BROACH, CRYSTAL and other oddities.

Moshe enters with Johnny, Elijah, Morgan, Dawn, and Big Al.

MORGAN P

I thought we blended in quite well.

MOSHE SHEKEL

I knew who you were from stage, in the middle of my act, I said to myself, 'Moshe, those oddballs--

JOHNNY P

I think we get the picture.

ELIJAH

Moshe... It is such an honor, I have been a follower of yours ever since I can remember. I'm Elijah.

MOSHE SHEKEL

Yes, yes, I've seen your scratches all over, trying to bring the 'We Are One' movement back, ha! Funny.

ELIJAH

What's so funny? You started it.

MOSHE SHEKEL

I was young once, like you. Started out scratching Anti Roman slogans in Jerusalem. After nearly two thousand years of fighting the Monetary System, I was finally collected and deposited here.

He reveals the TRIANGULAR SHAPE cut from his side, a BLUEISH HUE just like Johnny's surrounds it.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

That greedy man, Mr. Matson, the Vault Master, has spent his life Collecting Golden Bits, I was the seventh found. His goon Gene, the Coin Talker, cut it from me leaving only enough to keep me alive.

Johnny shrinks away, covering himself carefully.

ELIJAH

The legend speaks of needing all
twelve, Eleven isn't enough.

MOSHE SHEKEL

(eyeing Johnny)
He only needs one last bit.

DAWN P

That's Eli! He's the Twelfth Bit!

Moshe stares knowingly at Elijah who SHRINKS AWAY.

MOSHE SHEKEL

Are you now...?

DAWN P

What happens if he captures Eli?!

MOSHE SHEKEL

He re-mints the Original Token.

JOHNNY P

The Alchemist's Golden Coin? Why?

MOSHE SHEKEL

It can control the minds of man.

MORGAN P

Impossible. Coins are controlled by
people, not the other way around.

MOSHE SHEKEL

I wish that were true, but this
Coin had powers we cannot imagine.

JOHNNY P

I don't care about that, I'm here
to find Eddy P and save Liberty.

Right then, BOBBY C AND THREE FLATNOSERS barge in--

BOBBY C

I remember you now, tricky fella.

Johnny immediately starts RUBBING HIS HANDS TOGETHER and they
start to shine, but BOBBY GRABS HIS HANDS stopping him.

BOBBY C (CONT'D)

Not this time, mate.

Moshe sees this, then looks at Johnny's side as his PONCHO
FLIPS UP revealing his SCAR AND BLUE SPOT.

MOSHE SHEKEL
 (whispering to himself)
 It can't be...

Big Al CHARGES BOBBY, knocking him down. The Flatnosers pull out IRON CLUBS and pound Big Al-- Johnny WITHDRAWS HIS SCIMITAR and lashes out, they panic and COVER THEMSELVES.

FLATNOSER 1
 ENOUGH WITH THE SCRATCHES!! OW!!!

MOSHE SHEKEL
 QUICKLY! FOLLOW ME!!

Moshe leads them through a HIDDEN FLAP IN THE TENT, exiting out the back. Johnny turns to follow but is TACKLED BY BOBBY.

BOBBY C
 You're my ticket to Silver City.

Johnny slices, TRIMMING A BIT from Bobby's shoulder.

JOHNNY P
 MIND YOUR BUSINESS, FLATNOSER!

Bobby falls back giving Johnny time to run back out the way he came, into the Saloon. Bobby and the others follow.

INT. CHURCHILL'S SALOON, BACK STAGE AREA - NIGHT

Johnny runs from Flatnosers, skipping over props, up into the rigging, dodging them. Other Coins leap out of the way as SETS AND BACK DROPS COLLAPSE, backstage area destroyed.

JOHNNY P
 Sorry I can't stay for the encore!

Johnny leaps from the rigging, OVER THE TOP OF THE CURTAIN.

INT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, CHURCHILL'S PIGGYBANK- NIGHT

The crowd is startled as Johnny SLIDES DOWN THE CURTAIN from above, CUTTING THROUGH IT LIKE A SAIL in a Pirate Movie.

He leaps onto a table of tough AUSTRALIAN COINS as the Flatnosers pile out from backstage, falling into the crowd.

BOBBY C
 STOP BANGIN' ABOUT AND GET 'EM!

A classic WILD WEST SALOON BAR FIGHT ENSUES, Johnny ducks clubs, flying chairs, Mercury drinks fly about, it's mayhem.

Johnny SWINGS ON THE CHANDELIER, OUT THROUGH A BAY WINDOW--

JOHNNY P
Penny, penny, pick it up and all
day long you'll have good luck!

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, MAIN STREET - NIGHT

A CROWD OF VARIOUS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COINS have gathered
as Johnny BREAKS THROUGH THE GLASS and runs down the street
chased by Bobby C and his crew of FLATNOSERS.

BOBBY C
(shouting at everyone)
STOP THAT COIN! A YEAR'S CREDIT FOR
HIS WORTHLESS PENNY HIDE!!!

JOHNNY'S PONCHO CATCHES A NAIL, ripping off, revealing **MIND
YOUR BUSINESS** on his tummy and **WE ARE ONE ONE** on his back.

EVERYONE STOPS, even Bobby and the Flatnosers. They are
mesmerized by his stamping, Johnny is uncomfortable.

JOHNNY P
Never seen a Penny in the buff...?

From an alley, Moshe, Big Al, Morgan, and Elijah peak out--

MOSHE SHEKEL
It really is him, the *Chain Coin*.

ELIJAH
(totally blown away)
Can't believe I was with the real
12th Bit this whole time!

DAWN P
(rather disappointed)
I thought you were the twelfth bit?

ELIJAH
(coming clean)
Not exactly, more a place-holder.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, PINCH N POLISH SHOP - NIGHT

Eddy P exits the PINCH AND POLISH SHOP, behind him other
COINS GET BRISKLY POLISHED with leather rags while others are
GENTLY PINCHED by HUGE, PADDED THUMB AND FINGER MACHINES.

EDDY P
I feel like a new coin. Woo-wee!

He looks over and sees Johnny SURROUNDED IN THE STREET--

EDDY P (CONT'D)
Guess my timing couldn't be better.

BIG AL (O.C.)
(loud whisper)
MR. SHINY! OVER HERE!

Eddy looks over and sees Big Al in the alley with Moshe, Morgan, Dawn and Elijah. He hurries over to them.

EDDY P
Knew I would see you eventually!

DAWN P
EDDY! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE CAPTURED!

Dawn hugs him tightly, maybe too tightly.

MOSHE SHEKEL
We need to save the Chain Coin. If the Master of the Vault gets him, the world is doomed to darkness.

MORGAN P
How do we plan to accomplish that?

MOSHE SHEKEL
A little street magic.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Bobby C and Flatnosers are joined by ALL NATIONALITIES AND DENOMINATIONS, closing in on Johnny as he eases the tension.

JOHNNY P
(reasoning with them)
Come now, I'm no more special than you! Or you, or you. Or you or you.

BOBBY C
You are the keystone, mate. Once we get that hidden bit out of you and the Golden Coin is re-minted, man will no longer control us, we will control man, see? Simple like.

Just then, a SMOKE BOMB LANDS, exploding in front of Johnny. When the smoke clears, he is gone. All the Coins react--

His Flatnosers and OTHER COINS FROM THE CROWD start looking around, but to no avail, he is gone.

BOBBY C (CONT'D)
FIND THAT UNPOLISHED PONCE! NOW!

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM VAULT ENTRANCE - NIGHT

All the snakes are AGAIN GATHERED ABOUT THE VAULT DOOR watching intently as the SAFE CRACKER SNAKE slowly CLICKS THE LOCK-- Baleful lassos the handle, SNAPPING IT OPEN.

BALEFUL
Who'sssss feeling hungry....

THE SNAKES FOLLOW BALEFUL AS HE SLITHERS INSIDE the vault.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, PINCH N POLISH SHOP - NIGHT

As coins hurry past, into the street, Moshe leads Johnny INTO THE PINCH N POLISH SHOP, now DISGUISED AS GYPSY COINS.

MOSHE SHEKEL
Quickly now, inside. Hide in here.

JOHNNY P
How did you do that?!

INT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, PINCH N POLISH SHOP - NIGHT

The Salon Workers, all SWISS FRANCS, are DISGUSTED by the look and smell of the two OLD, GRUNGY LOOKING COINS.

SALON COIN
(heavy Swiss accent)
NO. OUT! ROMANIAN LEU NOT ALLOWED!

Moshe THROWS OFF THE RAGS revealing they are not Gypsy.

MOSHE SHEKEL
Move aside! I have a Penny to save!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

The LARGE BOX TRUCK pulls up outside the Numismatic Society Building, the DRIVING GETS OUT and goes into the building. Zack can be seen SITTING ON A BENCH IN THE LOBBY.

Mr. Silver appears from the BACK OF THE TRUCK and hops down.

MR. SILVER
 (talking to himself)
 I'll pay for what I've done, even
 if it costs me everything.

He heads off toward the building, more determined than ever.

EXT. SILVERCENTER SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

The lifeless dollars all dangle from the tree, but the COINS
 ONCE HANGING from it now are gathered with the others as the
 MAGIC COIN BOX continues radiating its spell.

BABYLONIAN
 OUR DAY IS CLOSE! SOON, WE SHALL
 NOT JUST RULE COINAGE, THE MONETARY
 SYSTEM SHALL RULE THE WORLD!

Sally continues shielding Miranda and herself as the Priestly
 Coins WALK THE GOLDEN BOX through the MESMERIZED AUDIENCE--

MIRANDA P
 It safe to look now...?

SALLY P
 No. Quit asking!

The SILVER GUARD arrive, SCRATCHED UP. CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD
 APPROACHES, concerned by their condition. A well polished
 SILVER DOLLAR GENERAL SILVER, LISTENS IN CAREFULLY--

CAPTAIN HALF
 You look like Pachinko Tokens!

SERGEANT HALF
 Tragic news, sir. The Carriage
 carrying the Collectibles flipped
 into the River Smelt.

CAPTAIN HALF
 (dreading the answer)
 You mean the Chain Coin is lost...?

SERGEANT HALF
 (suddenly horrified)
 One of them was the Twelfth Bit?!

GENERAL SILVER
 (yelling at his men)
 Yes, you useless scraps of swarf!!

The Babylonian and Egyptian hear this and approach, UPSET--

BABYLONIAN
BLASPHEMY! IMPOSSIBLE! NOT WRITTEN!

EGYPTIAN
There must be some mistake, the
Prophecy tells of the 12 Bits
reuniting, nothing of losing one.

Sally and Miranda OVERHEAR THIS NEWS and are crushed, sad.

LIEUTENANT HALF
(reliving the horror)
We saw with our own eyes, they were
smelted, it was awful, horrible. I
can still hear their screams.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, BACK ALLEY - NIGHT

Moshe and Johnny come from the back door and meet Eddy, Big Al, Morgan, and Elijah, happy to see one another. ABOVE THEM ARE MINE CART TRACKS with overflowing swarf filled carts on their way to SWARF MOUNTAIN to be dumped.

JOHNNY P
EDDY! I thought they caught you.

EDDY P
Nah, was having a pinch and polish.
Look how shiny I am now! Good as--

A MINE CART RATTLES BY ABOVE, dumping DIRTY SWARF ON EDDY.

BIG AL
HEY! DISGUISES! GREAT IDEA!

MOSHE SHEKEL
We don't just need disguises, we
need a distraction. Something so
big, so wild no one will be paying
attention to us. An event so epi--

SNAKES RAIN DOWN on the City of Loose Change, BALEFUL smashes down on the tracks above them, KNOCKING SWARF ALL OVER MOSHE, JOHNNY, MORGAN, DAWN, and ELIJAH, now FAR FROM SHINY.

Baleful slithers down to them, TONGUE FLICKING OUT--

BALEFUL
SSSSilver coinssss you are not.

Baleful chooses against eating them and slithers off to MAIN STREET WHERE SNAKES GOBBLE UP ANYTHING THAT SHINES.

BALEFUL (CONT'D)
 (calling to the others)
 FOLLOW ME TO THE SSSHINY SSSILVER!!

Johnny climbs up to the Mine Tracks above, the others follow.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, ELEVATED MINE TRACKS - NIGHT

Johnny arrives on the TRACKS OVER PENNYTOWN, high above the city, the City of Loose Change below, Pennytown across Sludge Creek, the River Smelt and the SILVER TOWER beyond.

Elijah, Eddy, Dawn, Morgan, Big Al, and Moshe all arrive.

JOHNNY P
 If those snakes beat us to Silver City, Liberty may be lost forever.

MOSHE SHEKEL
 You are who is most important, you are the one who must be saved.

ELIJAH
 Moshe's right, we have to get you out of here, pronto.

JOHNNY P
 I never leave a friend behind.

THE SNAKES FOLLOW BALEFUL THROUGH THE CITY TOWARD THE BRIDGE.

EDDY P
 We have to destroy the Bridge then, it's the only way across the river.

ELIJAH
 Yeah, stop them in Pennytown, they'll eat us instead.

MOSHE SHEKEL
 Stopping the snakes is the right action to take, Elijah. We must.

JOHNNY P
 They have to cross the bridge in a line, if we wait until they're all on it, then blow it, they'll drop.

ELIJAH
 There's no explosives in Coinage.

MOSHE SHEKEL
 I may know just the way to do it.

Moshe points at GIANT PAPER LANTERNS tied too strings above YEN TOWN, FLOATING LIKE HOT AIR BALLOONS.

MOSHE SHEKEL (CONT'D)

Float over the bridge, beat them to the other side. We can remove the rivets holding up the tracks.

BIG AL

Well what are we waiting for?!

ALL THE COINS HOP DOWN FROM THE TRACKS and hurry off--

EXT. PENNYTOWN CITY CENTER - NIGHT

Baleful leads the snakes through Pennytown, snakes are EASILY DISTRACTED BY ANYTHING SHINY, Baleful tries to wrangle them.

BALEFUL

SSILLY FOOLSS! SSSILVER NOT COPPER!

He SMACK THE OTHER SNAKES with his tail, POINTING WITH HIS NOSE at the TALL SILVER TOWER IN THE CITY CENTER.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, YEN TOWN - NIGHT

Populated by COINS OF ASIA, the town has an ASIAN DESIGN, COPPER CHERRY TREES line the streets, locals panic, hurrying about as a SNAKE SLITHERS BY, hurrying to catch the others.

Moshe, Johnny, Eddy, Elijah, Big Al, Dawn, and Morgan enter the main square where a MINIATURE PAGODA, BUDDHA SEATED IN THE CENTER, the LARGEST OF THE PAPER LANTERNS high above.

MOSHE SHEKEL

To the pagoda! Loosen the cables!

BIG AL

Pagoda? Sounds delicious!

They start UNTYING THE STRUCTURE from its moorings, the pagoda starts SHIFTING, RISING A BIT. Some of the METALLIC ROPE KNOTS are RUSTED TIGHT, hard to untie.

JOHNNY P

THEY MUST BE ON THE BRIDGE BY NOW!

BOBBY C arrives with some Flatnosers, as well as JACKBOOTED DUETCHMARKS, SCRAPPY LOOKING YEN coins, and other COUNTRIES.

BOBBY C

Snakes or no snakes, you're mine.

BIG AL
Keep going, we'll hold them off!

Big Al, Eddy, Elijah and Dawn set off to protect Johnny, Moshe, and Morgan while they finish UNTYING THE PAGODA.

MORGAN P
When I first took this job I
thought it would be easy!

Big Al, Elijah, Eddy, and Dawn fend off the attackers, it is like a MARTIAL ARTS BATTLE but to little avail-- Eddy pulls out his TINY STEEL SCRIBE, slashing out like a dagger.

EDDY P
There's too many of them! Hurry!

From across the town square, AN 708 AD JAPANESE COIN arrives with a CREW OF SHOGUN COINS, it has a SQUARE HOLE.

YEN MASTER
One branch is weak many are strong!

A 555 B.C. SILVER DRACHMA steps out with a SQUAD OF SPARTAN DRACHMAS, RAISES HIS TOGA revealing a MISSING CIRCLE.

SOLON THE GREEK
All for one and one for all!

Johnny looks at Moshe, at *his* MISSING PIECE.

JOHNNY P
You were like me once...?

MOSHE SHEKEL
Last surviving 3 of the 11 Bits.

Bobby C smiles wickedly and whistles-- JUST THEN, a PLATOON OF SHINY EUROS march quickly from the narrow alleyways.

BIG AL
(amazed by the Euros)
What in creation's coin-purse?!

ELIJAH
Euros, weird but deadly.

The Euros are all in FANCY EURO FASHION holding STEEL BATONS.

EURO LEADER
(odd European accent)
We Euros are so ready for fighting!

Bobby C RAISES HIS IRON CLUB like a VIKING LORD, CHARGING.

BOBBY C
LET'S GET 'EM BOYS! ROLL HARD!!

ALL THE COINS FROM THE OPPOSING SIDES CHARGE ONE ANOTHER and a great BATTLE ENSUES, Coins flying all over, spinning and flipping, all the while Johnny works on the FINAL KNOT.

Bobby C, the Deutchmarks, Yen, and Euros get the upper hand.

BIG AL
(calls to Johnny)
We're getting our cans served here!

Johnny RUBS HIS HANDS TOGETHER white hot, he MELTS THE ROPE.

JOHNNY P
GOT IT! COME ON! GET ON BOARD!!

Big Al throws off several Euros, grabs Dawn and hurries over to the pagoda which is QUICKLY RISING UP--

BIG AL
EDDY! ELI! LET'S ROLL!!

Eddy and Elijah SPIN SEVERAL EUROS into other coins, escaping with Big Al. The Ancient Japanese Coin calls out--

YEN MASTER
LONG LIVE THE EMPRESS GENMEI!!!

SOLON THE GREEK
Preserve Democracy!! For Athens!!

The GOOD COINS REGROUP AND CHARGE the BAD COINS as the pagoda floats safely out of reach, to BOBBY C'S UTTER DISMAY.

BOBBY C
BRING IN A COIN CANNON!!!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, FLOATING PAGODA - NIGHT

The PAGODA FLOATS HIGH ABOVE, the winds from the heat given off by Smelt River causes RANDOM LOOPING VORTICES that make for a bumpy ride. Johnny, Sally, Eddy, Miranda, Big Al, Morgan, Dawn, Elijah, and Moshe try to steady the Pagoda.

MOSHE SHEKEL
BALANCE IS KEY! CAREFUL NOW!!

Johnny looks down at the COIN BATTLE IN YEN TOWN then over at the SNAKES WHO ARE JUST STARTING TO CROSS THE BRIDGE above the RIVER SMELT, Baleful leading them.

Moshe suddenly collapses. Elijah and Eddy kneel beside him.

ELIJAH
Moshe! You OK...?

MOSHE SHEKEL
(feeling weak)
Once our Bits are taken, we only
have so much magic left inside.

JOHNNY P
I promise, when we get out of here,
I'll take you home with me. My
owner, Murph, he'll take care you.

Eddy can't believe his ears-- Morgan too PERKS UP.

EDDY P
Murph? Michael Jonathan Murphy?

JOHNNY P
How do you know his full name?

MORGAN P
Wait. You both know papa Murph?! I
was stolen from him years ago by
that horrible child Apolla.

EDDY P
Murph was my owner too! I was
stolen from him by that oaf Gene.

JOHNNY P
(dreading the memory)
Gene was the one who tried to
scratch my Golden Bit out.

At that moment, an UNANIMATED PENNY CRASHES THROUGH THE
PAGODA, breaking the ceramic, causing it to tilt wildly.

EXT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, BERWYN, NEW YORK STATE - NIGHT

Murph steps up on the porch, TOSSES A HEAVY BLACK TRASH BAG
onto the lawn with a grunt, SETTING THE SHOTGUN ASIDE.

He hasn't seen that MR. SILVER IS GONE and speaks freely.

MURPH
I know you fed Johnny to the snake,
I just don't understand why. Johnny
gave you life. I'm aware Silver can
be corrupted easily, but--

He stops in mid sentence, realizing he is alone. He looks down to see the SCRATCHED MESSAGE ON THE RAILING.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

ZACK SITS ON THE BENCH, his father Dale pacing away. Zack sees a SILVER DOLLAR SNEAKING through the Lobby. Zack looks at his father who is too busy stressing out to notice.

Zack hurries over and SNATCHES UP THE COIN--

ZACK
(whispering to the coin)
Got you! Where are you going?

MR. SILVER
You can talk to me? Impossible.

ZACK
Prove me wrong. Where are you off to in such a hurry?

MR. SILVER
I have to save my friend. I fed him to a snake because I was jealous--

ZACK
You're looking for the Fugio Cent!

SUDDENLY DALE GRABS HIS SHOULDER, spinning him around--

DALE
What have I told you about talking to money? Want to be committed?!

Dale SNATCHES THE COIN from his hand, looking at it.

DALE (CONT'D)
(suddenly jaw-dropped)
Where did you find this?!

ZACK
Right here, on the floor.

DALE
This will save the house for sure!

ZACK
But he isn't ours to sell, we can sell the Grandfather Clock.

DOWN BELOW Baleful is close to reaching the other side.

JOHNNY P (CONT'D)
WE'LL HAVE TO SWING AND FLIP!!

MORGAN P
Yeah, I don't think so!

JOHNNY P
I DO IT ALL THE TIME ON THE FARM,
TRUST ME! EITHER THAT OR--

A SPLASH OF SMELT splashes up and sizzles Big Al's buttocks.

BIG AL
SWING AND FLIP! SWING AND FLIP!

JOHNNY P
I'LL SWING YOU ALL, ONCE YOU GET
MAX VELOCITY, LET GO AND FLIP!!

DAWN P
We'll never make it.

MOSHE SHEKEL
Have faith, he's the Chain Coin!

Johnny grips tightly to the LOOSE METAL CORD and SWINGS ALL THE COINS BELOW as hard as he can, back and forth--

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY BRIDGE - NIGHT

Baleful looks up and sees the FLOATING PAGODA DROPPING TOWARD THE MOLTEN RIVER, the COINS SWING TOWARD SHORE--

BALEFUL
Ssssoooo sssshiny...

The TROLLY BRIDGE is not built for the SNAKES COMBINED WEIGHT, it BEGINS TO BUCKLE, creaking and bending.

BALEFUL (CONT'D)
That'sssss not good.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, YEN TOWN - NIGHT

THE BATTLE CONTINUES, COINS FLY ALL ABOUT as Bobby C AIMS THE CANNON at has Johnny. He reaches to RELEASE THE LEVER--

BOBBY C
See ya, wouldn't wanna be ya. *Mate.*

MASTER YEN AND Solon the Greek fly through the air and DOUBLE KICK BOBBY OFF THE CANNON, sending him SPINNING ACROSS THE SQUARE. The cannon pivots, FIRING AT BOBBY'S LINE OF FLATNOSERS, KNOCKING THEM ALL ABOUT.

THE PENNY CANNON KEEPS FIRING, KNOCKING FREE MORE LANTERNS.

ALL THE GOOD COINS CHEER, Master and Drachma HIGH FIVE--

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, FLOATING PAGODA - NIGHT

EDDY RAISES HIS KNEES to avoid dipping them in the MOLTEN RIVER as he swings over it and they all SPIN-FLIP THROUGH THE AIR landing safely on the OPPOSITE EMBANKMENT.

Baleful LOOKS OVER AND SEES THIS, he slithers faster.

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, TROLLEY BRIDGE LANDING - NIGHT

Dawn lands perfect, Morgan waddles about, Eddy almost bounces back into the river, Big Al grabs him, Elijah and Moshe make perfect landings, but no sign of Johnny.

They walk to the EDGE OF THE BRIDGE LANDING looking below at the molten river as the PAGODA CRASHES INTO THE FLOWING COPPER, the lantern BURSTING INTO FLAMES.

EDDY P
(very emotional)
JOHNNY!! JOHNNY!!! NO, NOT JOHNNY!!

They look up and see a DOZEN LANTERNS LET LOOSE OVER THE CITY, it is beautiful, a send off for a fallen hero. Sally cries--

JOHNNY P (O.C.)
You gonna help me with this?!

They look over, JOHNNY IS ALREADY WORKING AT LOOSENING THE LUG NUTS that are holding the bridge above the molten river.

MOSHE SHEKEL
TO THE BRIDGE!!

The coins hurry to HELP LOOSEN BOLTS quickly. Johnny looks over, Baleful IS NEARLY ACROSS, they MATCH EYES.

MORE BOLTS FALL and the BRIDGE TILTS BADLY OVER. TWO MORE SNAKES FALL INTO THE RIVER-- ONE HINGE LEFT TO DETACH.

JOHNNY P
BIG AL, PUT SOME MUSCLE INTO IT!

The full weight of the bridge now on ONE BOLT which is PINCHED TIGHT, Big Al cannot unscrew it.

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY BRIDGE - NIGHT

The bridge is now GROSSLY TWISTED, groaning under the weight as snakes SCALES SIZZLE FROM THE HEAT. Baleful is SHOVED FROM BEHIND by panicking snakes, almost knocking him off.

BALEFUL
Ssssnakesssss are the worsssst!!!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, TROLLEY BRIDGE LANDING - NIGHT

Dawn, Morgan, Eddy, Elijah, Big Al, Moshe, all of them try their hardest to REMOVE THE FINAL BOLT. Johnny steps up--

JOHNNY P
EVERYONE, BACK AWAY!!

Johnny claps his hands, rubbing furiously, HOTTER THEY GLOW--

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY BRIDGE - NIGHT

Baleful can see the GLOWING LIGHT FROM JOHNNY, his eyes go wide with terror and he COILS UP TO SPRING AWAY--

BALEFUL
EVERY SSSSNAKE FOR ITSSSSELF!!!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, TROLLEY BRIDGE LANDING - NIGHT

With hands at MAXIMUM INTENSITY, Johnny places them AGAINST THE BOLT, it melts, the BRIDGE GIVES, crumbling on them--

JOHNNY P
NOOOOOOOO!!!

Johnny watches in horror as his friends are BURIED BENEATH RAILS AND SCAFFOLDS, TRACKS AND RAFTERS. He looks over--

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY BRIDGE - NIGHT

Baleful SPRINGS UP FROM THE FALLING TROLLEY BRIDGE, flying high over head as ALL THE OTHER SNAKES DROP with the tracks into the MOLTEN RIVER, MELTING AWAY INTO COPPER.

Baleful LANDS SAFELY, EYES FIXATED ON THE SILVER TOWER.

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, TROLLEY BRIDGE LANDING - NIGHT

Johnny has to decide between helping his friends or stopping the snake. He DRAWS HIS SCIMITAR, about to attack--

DAWN P (O.S.)
HEEEEEELP! SOMEONE!!!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, PENNYTOWN TROLLY STATION - NIGHT

BALEFUL COILS ATOP THE COPPER TROLLY STATION, eyes shimmering, longing for the taste of Silver. PENNIES RUN AMOK, TERRIFIED as Baleful HISSES HIS TONGUE at Johnny.

BALEFUL
I'll sssave you for lassst.

Baleful SLITHERS AWAY-- The SPLASHING FROM THE COLLAPSING BRIDGE causes an overflow that MELTS THE RETAINING WALL, molten copper POURS OVER THE EDGE toward the city.

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, TROLLEY BRIDGE LANDING - NIGHT

Johnny THROWS TWISTED WRECKAGE AWAY, uncovering his friends, Big Al first, who then helps, next Eddy, who helps uncover Dawn, then Elijah, finally Morgan-- But no Moshe.

ELIJAH
MOSHE! WHERE IS MOSHE?!!

Moshe is wedged so deep, so tight, even with all of them lifting at once, it is no use. The Molten river flows toward them, like lava pouring forth from a volcano.

BIG AL
HANG ON LIL FELLA! WE GOT THIS!!

Big Al lifts so hard he gets a FRACTURE IN HIS BACK. He has to let go, the RAILS COLLAPSING as he kneels in pain.

BIG AL (CONT'D)
Oh that's gonna leave a dent.

MOSHE SHEKEL
Leave me! Take all who wish to go
and get them to safety! Save them!

ELIJAH
No coin left behind!

Elijah, Eddy, Johnny, Dawn, Morgan all lift but cannot raise it, the MOLTEN RIVER NOW LAPPING AT THEIR HEELS.

MOSHE SHEKEL
We Are One, and always will be.

MOSHE SMILES AS THE SMELT ENGULFS HIM, rising quickly--

ELIJAH
MOSHE!! Moshe...

They back away, river STOPPING AT THE THICK BRIDGE PLATFORM,
SLOWLY BURNING THROUGH IT on a PATH TOWARD SILVER CITY.

MORGAN P
This barrier isn't going to hold,
we have to warn everyone!!

Elijah looks around, he spots a PUBLIC ADDRESS SPEAKER
attached to a SPECIALIZED EMERGENCY COIN TROLLEY.

ELIJAH
A P-A trolley! That'll do it!

EXT. CITY OF COINAGE, ELEVATED TROLLEY TRACKS - NIGHT

Elijah sits up top of a bench seat, Eddy at his side squeezed
between Big Al. Growing from the STEAM-PUNK PHONOGRAPH
CARRIAGE is a tubular gramophone amplifier.

EDDY P
(to Big Al)
I like a good pinching but this--

BIG AL
I'm a big penny, it's my minting.

In the OPEN CARRIAGE is Johnny, Morgan, and Dawn, hanging on
as Eli speeds along, sparks fly from the undercarriage.

JOHNNY P
(speaking into megaphone)
THE RIVER SMELT IS BREACHING THE
BARRIER! GET TO HIGHER ELEVATION!

DOWN BELOW, THE CITY IS IN CHAOS as coins run toward the
SILVER TOWER, chased by Baleful WHO GOBBLES hungrily.

MORGAN P
Those poor coins...

The heated copper and overflowing river LIGHTS UP THE VAULT,
showing clearly they are COMPLETELY CONFINED INSIDE OF IT.

DAWN P
 (really scared now)
 There's no escape from this place.

EDDY LOOKS OVER HIS SHOULDER AT HER--

EDDY P
 Yes there is! A crack under Swarf
 Mountain. Old smugglers tunnel.

JOHNNY P
 How do you know?!

EDDY P
 How do you think I escaped?!

MORGAN P
 (pointing above)
 OH NO! LIBERTY!!

They look up at the top of the Silver Tower and see the GLASS
 VACUUM TUBE LOWERING DOWN TOWARD LIBERTY, now sealed in a
 Plexiglas COLLECTIBLE COIN BOX, terrified.

ELIJAH
 We'll have to jump tracks to save
 her! Everyone hang on!

Eli uses a GEAR SHIFT and BRAKE SYSTEM AT THE SAME TIME
 causing the P-A TROLLEY TO VIOLENTLY HOP UP and over to
 another set of tracks, landing in a shower of sparks.

BIG AL
 BEST CABBY IN COINAGE I'D SAY!!!

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Gene sits at the desk, A RED MALFUNCTION LIGHT blinks by the
 VACUUM TUBE CHAMBER. He fiddles around with the wires--

Dale and Zack enter, STARTLING HIM, causing him to rip out a
 wire he had just fixed. Otherwise NO ONE ELSE IS PRESENT.

DALE
 Apologies, Cousin Gene, thousand
 pardons, but where is my brother?

GENE
 Shopping, where do you think. He's
 a fool for that woman. Left his
 wife in a retirement home for her.

DALE

That's really none of my business.
I just remembered a Coin I forgot I
brought, can you Grade him?

Dale holds out his hand and GENE SEES THE LIVING COIN THERE.

GENE

Well I have all the time in the
world for this little fellow.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

The Babylonian and Egyptian SILVER DOLLARS stand with arms
and hands raised toward the SILVER TOWER, all the COINS IN
THE CROWD DO THE SAME as the Priestly Coins WALK THROUGH THE
CROWD WITH THE BOX OF GOLDEN BITS, vibrating and shining.

Miranda is down there with them, SHIELDING HER EYES.

BABYLONIAN

(preaching to the crowd)
As we solemnly recall the day we
coins were enslaved by Man, when
the value thereof was removed and
given to those worthless paper
bills hanging lifeless in our tree.

He POINTS AT THE BILLS ALL DANGLING from the Money Tree.

EGYPTIAN

(looking confused; scared)
A snake... A... sn-sn-snake...

BABYLONIAN

That's not part of the speech, the
snake story is for the December
23rd Federal Reserve Act Ritual.

EGYPTIAN

No-- SNAAAAAAAKE!!!

EVERYONE TURNS TO LOOK, Baleful LEAPS FROM THE CARRIAGE
TRACKS, down into the crowd, sending SILVERY, WELL DRESSED
NICKELS, DIMES, QUARTERS, and SILVER DOLLARS spinning about.

Baleful is fixated on the GLASS ARC FILLED WITH GOLDEN,
VIBRATING, MAGICAL BITS. He licks his lips and charges.

BALEFUL

Sssssooooo sssshiny...

The PRIESTLY COINS LOOK UP, their faces drop in terror as Baleful flies through the air, mouth agape, toward them.

BABYLONIAN
THE GOLDEN BITS! INTO THE VAULT!

The Priestly Coins try to RUN UP THE STAIRS toward the HUGE, GOLDEN DOORS leading into the TOWER VAULT as Baleful is about to eat them. The Priestly Coins DROP THE BOX AND RUN.

BABYLONIAN (CONT'D)
I'LL HAVE YOU ALL SPENT FOR THIS!

The Babylonian Priestess runs over and stands between Baleful and the box of Golden Bits, RAISING HIS STAFF at the snake.

BABYLONIAN (CONT'D)
WICKED SERPENT THOW SHALL NOT EAT--

Before he can finish, Johnny SWINGS THROUGH on a COPPER WIRE, scooping the Babylonian Priestess out of the way just as Baleful GOBBLES UP THE BOX, SHATTERING THE GLASS and choking down the scorching, magical Golden Bits.

BABYLONIAN AND EGYPTIAN COINS ARE HORRIFIED--

EGYPTIAN
This wasn't in the prophecy... The New Age was supposed to bring the Twelve Bits back together again.

EXT. SILVER CITY COLLECTIBLE CARRIAGE TRACKS - NIGHT

HIGH ABOVE IN THE P-A TROLLEY, sitting on the ELEVATED TRACKS are Eli, Big Al, Eddy, Dawn, and Morgan, watching intently.

MORGAN P
MIRANDA!!! What do we do...?!

JOHNNY P
What Captain Blood would do.

Johnny RIPS A COPPER WIRE from the track and SWINGS DOWN.

BIG AL
Captain Blood? He must be crazy.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

Miranda now OPENS HER EYES finally seeing the SNAKE CLOSE BY, all the destruction, the MELTING RIVER BOILING BEYOND. Miranda looks up and sees her FRIENDS IN THE P-A TROLLEY.

JOHNNY SUDDENLY SWINGS DOWN, landing on the stage beside her.

MIRANDA P
(so happy to see them)
Johnny! Oh thank Heavens!

Baleful DOES NOT SEE JOHNNY and slithers up to the Egyptian.

EGYPTIAN
What have you done with those Bits?

BALEFUL
They are together... In my bell--

BEFORE HE CAN FINISH a powerful internal GRUMBLING COMES FROM BALEFUL'S BELLY. A MASSIVE BULGE FORMS, it BEGINS GLOWING.

BALEFUL (CONT'D)
I may have indigestion.

Baleful buckles over in pain, WHITE HOT GLOWING MID-SECTION pulsing rapidly, his SCALES BAKE INTO A CRYSTALLIZED FORM.

The Egyptian looks at the HALF-DOLLAR GUARDS SHAKING IN FEAR.

CAPTAIN HALF
Hey, buddy, you doing okay...?

THE GUARD POINTS AT JOHNNY'S SIDE, it starts GLOWING WITH A GOLDEN RADIANCE-- Johnny looks down, the EGYPTIAN LOOKS OVER.

EGYPTIAN
You... You're the one...

Babylonian now sees Johnny's GLOWING BIT as well, POINTING.

BABYLONIAN
The Twelfth Bit! The Prophecy is true! LO! BEHOLD THE CHAIN COIN!

JOHNNY P
Miranda, let's go!

Johnny GRABS MIRANDA, she pulls away--

MIRANDA P
Who's going to save these Coins? I have to get them *all* out of here.

JOHNNY P
(quietly to her)
Get them to Swarf Mountain, there's a secret tunnel to a crack in the vault, bring every coin you can.

Johnny nods and SWINGS BACK UP to the awaiting Trolley where LOOSE PAPER LANTERNS FLOAT TOWARD THE VACUUM TUBE, SUCTION PULLING ONE OF THEM INTO THE TUBE, CLOGGING IT.

EXT. SILVER CITY COLLECTIBLE CARRIAGE TRACKS - NIGHT

Eli releases the brake, trolley taking off up a revolving track that WRAPS ABOUT THE SILVER TOWER. On top of the tower LIBERTY IS INSIDE HER COLLECTIBLE BOX, scared for her life.

JOHNNY P
I'M COMING FOR YOU LIBERTY!!!

Dawn puts a hand on Johnny's shoulder, determined. Eddy, Big Al, and Morgan nod to Johnny, they have his back.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

The COINS GATHERED IN THE SQUARE watch Johnny and his team spiral away. They break into a GREAT CHEER, celebrating.

ALL THE COINS
WE ARE ONE! WE ARE ONE! WE ARE ONE!

The shell of Baleful SHATTERS INTO DUST revealing a GOLDEN SERPENT, POSSESSED by the Golden Bits within.

GOLDEN SERPENT
ALIVE! FINALLY! AND LOOK AT MY
FORM! A GOLDEN SERPENT, DIVINE!

EGYPTIAN
Impossible, how are you alive...?

GOLDEN SERPENT
The first great Alchemists endowed
the Magic Token with Venom from the
Cosmic Serpent, *remember...*?

BABYLONIAN
But you're missing the Twelfth Bit.

The Golden Serpent stares at Johnny RISING UP THE TOWER--

GOLDEN SERPENT
Not for long. Time to become One.

Golden Serpent SLITHERS OVER TO THE TROLLY STATION, climbing onto the track that leads up the Silver Tower. It's enormous weight CRUSHING EVERYTHING IN IT'S PATH, including the track.

EGYPTIAN

What have we done...?

BABYLONIAN

(pointing at the river)

What have we done? Look at that!

The Coins look out over the radiant city at the **MOLTEN RIVER BURNING AND MELTING** everything as it flows toward them.

CAPTAIN HALF

SOUND THE ALARM! ABANDON COINAGE!!

HALF DOLLAR GUARDS hurry to a **LARGE EMERGENCY LEVER**, a sign reads. '**PULL IN EMERGENCY**', but the **LEVER IS RUSTED STUCK**.

CAPTAIN HALF (CONT'D)

GET SOME POLISH ON IT!! NOW!!!

SEVERAL JANITORIAL PENNIES emerge from a **MAINTENANCE ROOM** with **BUCKETS OF POLISH AND BRUSHES**, getting to work.

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Gene tries to **SHOVE THE COIN** in the **SILVER DOLLAR SLOT**, but it doesn't fit. Zack sees what is really happening, **MR. SILVER IS FIGHTING BACK**, bracing his legs against the slot.

DALE

Careful! That's highly Collectible!

Dale watches in wonder as **GENE SPEAKS TO THE COIN** like Zack.

GENE

Can't get you graded if we can't
get you downstairs. Come on now--

MR. SILVER

(not heard by Dale)

This is Murph's old desk! You're no
Money Manager, let me loose!

GENE

You are a stubborn one aren't you?

ZACK

(wanting to end this)

We'll just Grade him later.

Gene stops, realizing Zack has the power of **MONEY TALK**.

GENE

How do you know it's a *him*...?

DALE

Zack pretends coins can talk, it's
crazy, but he'll grow out of it.

GENE

(very ominously)
That's a curse not easily shaken.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The winding track seems to get steeper as the tower NARROWS
AT THE TOP, creating a much stronger centrifugal force as the
trolley rises. At the top, GUARDS TRY TO FIX the GLASS VACUUM
TUBE which has been clogged by a LOOSE PAPER LANTERN.

SALLY Q

(inside her case)
JOHNNY!! JOHNNY!! SAVE ME!!

PAPER LANTERNS FLOAT ABOUT, SOME BUMPING THE SILVER TOWER.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER TROLLEY TRACK - NIGHT

Eli uses the break as little as possible, the TROLLEY
CAREENING AROUND THE BENDS, Morgan almost flies out but
Johnny grabs her hand, pulling her back in.

JOHNNY P

HOLD HANDS, WE'RE HEAVIER AS ONE!

Eddy, Dawn, Big Al, all clasp hands, but no Eli.

BIG AL

ELI! YOUR HAND!

ELIJAH

I CAN'T! I'M DRIVING!

DAWN P

THEN SLOW DOWN!

ELIJAH

CAN'T DO THAT EITHER!

MORGAN P

WHY NOT?!

Eli NODS OVER HIS SHOULDER and they all look down--

ELIJAH

THAT'S WHY!!

BELOW THEM is GOLDEN SERPENT, TRACKS COLLAPSING BENEATH HIM as he climbs, dropping him down as he ascends.

DAWN P
THESE TRACKS AREN'T GOING TO HOLD!

The entire track system starts to come apart, BOLTS STARTS RATTLING FREE, RAILS DROP AWAY, the end is nigh.

JOHNNY P
HE'S ONLY AFTER ME! IF I FLIP AWAY--

EDDY P
THEN WE ALL FALL DOWN! YOU'RE THE ONLY THING KEEPING US TOGETHER!

Johnny looks down, Golden Serpent gains on them but to the detriment of the entire structure, WHOLE BUILDING SWAYING.

MORGAN P
What's happening to you...?

Johnny's GOLDEN BIT GLOWS HOT the closer the Snake gets.

JOHNNY P
The Bits want to be one again.

BIG AL
What if they do...?

JOHNNY P
I'll be spent.

Eli rips a PROTECTIVE COVER off the batter conductor allowing MORE ENERGY TO FLOW into the pistons, almost throwing him from the trolley, he DANGLES OVER THE SIDE, perilously.

ELIJAH
(speaking of himself)
Elijah won't let that happen!

Golden Serpent LAUNCHES UPWARDS, mouth open, ready to eat.

GOLDEN SERPENT
Sssso clossssse!!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

SILVER DOLLAR Guards have CLEARED THE LANTERN, ready to LOAD LIBERTY'S BOX, but the SWAYING OFFSETS THE LOADING CHAMBER.

SALLY P
PLEASE! I NEVER AGREED TO ASCEND!

PRIVATE SILVER
 Isn't our choice mam, and as you
 can see the whole city is in peril.

Sally looks out over the city, the river MELTS IT'S WAY
 THROUGH COINAGE, towers fall, entire neighborhoods dissolve.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER TROLLEY DECK - NIGHT

The P-A Trolley skids up to the OFF LOADING PLATFORM high
 above the city, the crossbeams of the structure start coming
 loose, RAILS, TRACKS, BOLTS STARTS CRUMBLING AWAY.

Eli CRANKS BACK ON THE BREAK, the trolley skidding, sparks
 showering the area, they won't stop in time.

ELIJAH
 EVERYONE JUMP! JUMP NOW!!!

Johnny JUMPS OFF with Big Al, Dawn, Eddy, and Morgan
 connected by his MAGICAL GRIP. They tumble across the rickety
 decking just as the P-A- TROLLEY FLIES OFF THE PLATFORM.

They run to the edge just in time to see the P-A TROLLEY
 SMASH TO BITS ON THE STAIRS TO THE CEREMONIAL CENTER.

DAWN P
 ELI! NOOOOOO!! NO!!

They all stare below, EMOTIONS WELLING UP, tears forming.

DAWN P (CONT'D)
 I never got to tell him...

MORGAN P
 Tell him what...?

DAWN P
 I... I love you...

A FAMILIAR VOICE FROM BEHIND THEM--

ELIJAH (O.C.)
 I love you too.

They all turn to find ELIJAH FLOATING UP FROM BELOW HANGING
 FROM A WIRE BELOW A LOOSE PAPER LANTERN. He hops down, safe.

JOHNNY P
 (completely frustrated)
 Can we finally save Liberty now?

THE FLOOR BENEATH THEM DROPS, the SPIRALING TRACK NOW CRUSHED or gone, the GOLDEN SERPENT COILED about the Silver Tower to keep itself from falling, hissing madly--

GOLDEN SERPENT
You can't essscape your fate!

Johnny looks over at the GIANT RETRACTABLE SILVER THUMB, pulling the RESET LEVER, the thumb drops into place.

JOHNNY P
EVERYONE ON THE THUMB! NOW!

They hurry onto the thumb, barely fitting. Johnny STAYS BEHIND TO RELEASE PRESS THE THUMB RELEASE.

EDDY P
Johnny! What about you...?!

JOHNNY P
Save Liberty! She's all that matters! Thumbs away!

GOLDEN SERPENT LAUNCHES UPWARD just as Johnny releases the spring loaded thumb, LAUNCHING THEM up and away--

BIG AL
DON'T BE A HEROOOOOOOO!!!!

Johnny's WHOLE BODY GLOWS GOLDEN NOW as Golden Serpent LANDS HARD ON THE PLATFORM, loosening it further.

GOLDEN SERPENT
You know we belong together you and I, I am you and you are me.

Johnny UNSHEATHES HIS SCIMITAR, steadying himself for the battle as Golden Serpent moves forward.

JOHNNY P
I'm my own coin, Serpent. I belong to me and me alone!

The Serpent lunges, but the SCIMITAR, ENDOWED WITH MAGIC, SLICES DEEP into the snakes hide, SPARKS FLYING ALL OVER.

GOLDEN SERPENT
AHHHHYEEEEEE!!! THAT'S SSSMARTSS!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The Guards get the alignment right, about to OPEN THE SUCTION VALVE when Big Al flies out of nowhere, SMASHING THE GUARDS, spinning them away. Dawn, Eddy, Morgan, and Eli land next.

EDDY P
(shaking off his fear)
Wasn't so bad after all.

One of the Guards ROLLS OVER THE LAUNCH BUTTON, VACUUM TUBE OPENING-- SUCTION PULLING THE COINS up into the shaft--

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Gene sits at Murph's desk, still holding Mr. Silver. Dale is annoyed with Gene and Zack, now ready to just leave.

DALE
Just... Give the coin back, Gene.

GENE
Tell you what, I can write you a check for it right now--

DALE
Not without Bill's permission.

GENE
(smiles wickedly)
He gave me Power of Attorney, Dale.

SILVER DOLLAR COINS FLY FROM THE OPEN VACUUM TUBE, smacking Gene in the head, ONE AFTER THE OTHER, painfully.

Zack takes this moment to SNATCH MR. SILVER BACK from Gene and runs out of the room followed by Dale.

ZACK
Let's go dad! Forget the Grading!

Gene rubs his head, COVERED IN KNOTS, recovering-- He SCOOPS UP THE COINS, dropping them on his desk, THEY LINE UP.

GENE
(yelling at General Silver)
WHAT IS GOING ON DOWN THERE?!!

PRIVATE SILVER
(completely distraught)
Coinage has fallen!
(MORE)

PRIVATE SILVER (CONT'D)
Snakes everywhere, the River Smelt
overflowed it's banks, revolution,
discord, it's the end times!

GENE
HOGWASH! You're brain is dented!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

Big Al sees the box lifting off and grabs on to it, PULLING
IT BACK DOWN, the others join in, but the SUCTION IS STRONG.

SALLY P
PLEASE HELP!

BIG AL
Just break the glass!!

SALLY P
I can't, it's Plexiglas!

Dawn looks over and sees the REMAINS OF THE PAPER LANTERN.

DAWN P
WE HAVE TO CLOG IT UP! MORGAN, GO!

Morgan lets go and hurries to the BALLED UP LANTERN, trying
hard to roll it over to them, but is too weak.

OTHER LANTERNS SLOWLY WHIRL CLOSER, dropping and rising.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER TROLLEY DECK - NIGHT

The deck is barely holding together, SECTIONS FALL AWAY into
the crumbling city far below. Golden Serpent, now COVERED IN
DEEP SCRATCHES, circles around Johnny, wanting to EAT HIM.

GOLDEN SERPENT
Wassssn't expecting sssuch a
ssstruggle from you, Johnny.

JOHNNY P
Mind your business next time!

The Serpent lashes out, Johnny slices him, SNAKE RECOILING.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

Miranda and all the COINS GATHER ON THE STEPS as the MOLTEN
COPPER RIVER starts melting away at the UNDERPINNINGS of the
building itself causing it to TEETER SIDEWAYS dangerously.

MIRANDA P
 (taking control)
 STAY TOGETHER! KEEP CALM NOW!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The tilt causes the BALLED UP PAPER LANTERN to ROLL TOWARD Big Al, Eddy, Dawn, and Elijah who still hold tight to the see through box containing SALLY P LIBERTY, her face scared.

SALLY P
 Where's Johnny?! Is he ok?!

BIG AL
 Worry about him later, doll.

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER TROLLEY DECK - NIGHT

Another chunk of the DECK AND RAIL FALL AWAY almost taking Johnny with it. Golden Serpent has to REMAIN COILED ABOUT THE SILVER TOWER to keep from falling.

GOLDEN SERPENT
 Isss thiss really all worth it?

The ENTIRE BUILDING BEGINS TO LEAN, bending at the bottom. The SNAKE LASHES OUT with only its neck and head--

JOHNNY P
 I'd do anything to save Liberty!

GOLDEN SERPENT
 Ssso I catch her, I catch you!

He leaves Johnny, SNAKING UPWARD AROUND THE TOWER--

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The CRUSHED PAPER LANTERN rolls up to them, Eddy reaches for it, causing the BOX TO RISE FURTHER-- He stops and grabs on.

MORGAN P
 What do we do?!

DAWN P
 RUN!

MORGAN P
 (totally confused)
 Run?

Dawn POINTS WITH HER HEAD as Eddy, Big Al, and Eli look over.

GOLDEN SERPENT (O.S.)
From me perhapsssss.

GOLDEN SERPENT LOOMS ABOVE HER. The snake lunges, Morgan closes her eyes, only the SNAKE PASSES HER, spinning her.

BIG AL
IT'S GOING TO EAT US!!!

Golden Serpent, instead of eating the coins, EATS THE BOX.

DAWN P
No, it wants Liberty! Why...?

ELIJAH
Must have eaten Johnny already.

Dawn, Eli, Eddy and Big Al fall onto the platform as Golden Serpent pulls the BOX FREE FROM THE SUCTION, balled up PAPER LANTERN NOW SUCKED UP, clogging it.

MORGAN P
One problem down, a thousand to go.

The group of five come together, watching aghast as GOLDEN SERPENT SQUEEZES hard on the shatter proof Plexiglas case, A CRACK APPEARS ACROSS THE FRONT OF IT, Sally squeals--

SALLY P
JOHNNY! IF YOU'RE STILL IN THERE
SOMEWHERE PLEASE DON'T EAT ME!

JOHNNY P (O.S.)
I'M HERE TO SAVE YOU, NOT EAT YOU!

Sally hears the VOICE FROM THE SNAKE, which bites THE CASE.

SALLY P
This is a strange way to show it!

DAWN P
Sally! Over there!

Johnny stand heroically, VERY MUCH ALIVE, SCIMITAR in hand.

SALLY P
JOHNNY! YOUR SAFE!

He runs over and SLICES THE SNAKES BELLY as deep as he can, causing SEVERAL OF THE GOLDEN BITS to spill out.

Golden Serpent writhes in agony, releasing the box--

GOLDEN SERPENT
GHHHAAASSSSTTT!!!

SALLY'S COIN CASE falls to the deck, sealed tight. Johnny claps his hands, RUBBING THEM VIGOROUSLY, heating them--

JOHNNY P
Stand away from the plastic!!

Sally backs away, the ENTIRE TOWER SHIFTS, throwing Big Al, Eddy, Elijah, Dawn, and Morgan against a guard railing, Dawn GRABS ELIJAH'S HAND, catching him before he is thrown over.

DAWN P
I'LL NEVER LET GO OF YOU, ELI!

Johnny places his hand on the plastic and it SMOULDERS AWAY, DARK BLACK SMOKE giving way to Sally Liberty's freedom.

She hops out of the opening and HUGS JOHNNY tightly--

SALLY P
And I'll never let go of you again.

Seeing this, Golden Serpent lurches forth, trying to gobble them both, but as he does, FIVE GOLDEN BITS FALL OUT.

GOLDEN SERPENT
BLASSSTED BITSSS WON'T SSSTAY IN!

He GOBBLES THEM UP AGAIN then TIES HIMSELF into a knot before SOLIDIFYING INTO GOLD AGAIN, trapping the Bits inside.

BIG AL
WE NEED TO GET OFF THIS TOWER!

ELIJAH
NO! WE NEED IT TO FALL!

MORGAN P
Why would we ever want that?!

Eli points out over the city to SWARF MOUNTAIN GROWING UP THE SIDE OF THE VAULT WALL, nearly as high as they are now.

DAWN P
The height of the tower equals the distance to the mountain!

BIG AL
(finally understanding)
We can ride this baby all the way!

The Serpent's FLESHY SCALES shimmer back into GOLDEN ONES, but below the knot he remains a REGULAR Baleful.

JOHNNY P
You're magic isn't working anymore.

GOLDEN SERPENT
Once I consume you, this fleshy form won't matter, I will become like a God to both Coin and Man.

Golden Serpent lunges, Johnny and Sally duck away.

SALLY P
So what?! What does that get you?

GOLDEN SERPENT
I want the world of Man to bow before the Golden Serpent, and with control over their money, I will have control over their minds!

The Serpent strikes again, getting SLICED ACROSS THE CHEEK.

JOHNNY P
What do you care what man does...?

GOLDEN SERPENT
They stole me from my forest where I was happy and put me in a glass cage, now I will cage them.

JOHNNY P
Not if I stop you.

Golden Serpent bites away viciously, snapping at Johnny, finally BREAKING HIS SCIMITAR in two. He SMILES WICKEDLY.

GOLDEN SERPENT
Seems your value just decreased.

Johnny puts Sally behind him, protecting her. Johnny realizes the only thing keeping the tower from falling is the VACUUM TUBE CONNECTION, with a MANUALLY LATCHED BOLT tightly bound.

Johnny runs to it, trying to TWIST IT LOOSE--

JOHNNY P
We'll see about that!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

The PENNYWORKERS HAVE FINALLY POLISHED THE EMERGENCY LEVER to a brassy hue, Miranda points for the Silver Guard to pull the lever, just as the MOLTEN RIVER IS ABOUT TO REACH THEM, a path of utter destruction left in its wake.

MIRANDA P
PULL! PUT A DOLLAR'S WORTH INTO IT!

MORE COINS JOINS and pull again, it CREAKS TO LIFE and SLAMS DOWN INTO PLACE WITH A LOUD CLANK. Nothing happens.

MIRANDA P (CONT'D)
NOTHING?! YOU MUST BE JOKING!

SERGEANT HALF
We've never had to pull it before.

The MOLTEN RIVER hits the MONEY TREE, it goes up in flames.

INT. NEW YORK NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

A RED LIGHT BLINK ON THE WALL by the Vacuum Tube and Coin Slots, Gene looks at it, then down at Private Silver--

GENE
(suddenly nervous)
You weren't kidding were you...?

PRIVATE SILVER
(totally depressed)
Coinage is smelted swarf by now.

SMOKE SUDDENLY DRIFTS OUT of the vacuum tube. Gene PULLS A LEVER on the wall, a sign reads: **NEVER PULL THIS LEVER!**

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

Golden Serpents leaps out, but his OLD TAIL IS WEDGED IN THE GRATING of the deck. Hu tugs harder, TEARING HIS SCALES.

SALLY P
Hurry Johnny, he's stuck!!

Johnny RUBS HIS HANDS TOGETHER, they glow hot-- He starts to MELT THE BOLT WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDS, RED LIGHT SPINS, and a SPRINKLER SYSTEM ERUPTS cooling his hands down.

RAIN POURS FROM THE ROOF, COVERING THE CITY, it's biblical.

JOHNNY P
Rain?! Inside a vault?!

EDDY P
It's the emergency sprinkler
system, installed after the Stock
Market Collapse in 1929.

Golden Serpent LUNGES SO HARD HE RIPS IN TWO, leaving his
lower half behind, SAILING HEADFIRST TOWARD JOHNNY.

GOLDEN SERPENT
IT'S DINNNNNERRRRR TIIIIIME!!!

Sally looks horrified, Johnny has nowhere to go, it's over.
Eddy, Morgan, Elijah, Dawn, and Big Al watch in horror.

Johnny strains, his BODY VIBRATING WHITE HOT when the Golden
Serpent CRACKS HEAD FIRST INTO THE BOLT, IT SLOWLY FALLS OUT.

Golden Serpent SHAKES HIS HEAD, looking over at them. Johnny
is gone. Sally assumes the worst--

SALLY P
(totally devastated)
JOHNNY! NO! I can't lose you twice.

MORGAN P
(completely amazed)
HE FLIPPED HIMSELF! UP THERE! LOOK!

They all look up, JOHNNY IS SPINNING IN MID AIR, defying
gravity. The Serpent looks up, disgruntled and angry--

GOLDEN SERPENT
I'll jussst wait here then...

He coils below, GOLD KNOT KEEPING HIM TOGETHER, opening his
mouth wide, waiting for Johnny to FALL INTO IT.

Johnny SPINS AS HARD AS HE CAN, a LOUD CLANK AND POP sounds
out as the BOLT POPS FREE releasing the ENTIRE BUILDING.

Johnny falls PAST THE GAPING MOUTH as the building TIPS OVER
falling forward. Johnny clutches a girder, GRABBING SALLY--

JOHNNY P
HOLD HANDS! EVERYONE!

All of them clasp hands, Golden Serpent tries to slither to
safety, but WITHOUT A LOWER HALF he can't slither.

GOLDEN SERPENT
I can't ssslither! Sssave me!!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER CEREMONIAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

The city melts and cools at the same time as water rains from the SPRINKLER SYSTEM, stopping the Coins from being smelted. EVERYONE CHEERS, until the GROUND STARTS RIPPING upwards.

Miranda, the Babylonian, Egyptian, and ALL THE SURVIVORS watch in horror as the SILVER TOWER FALLS ACROSS THE CITY.

BABYLONIAN
THE TOWER FALLS! THE TOWER FALLS!!

EGYPTIAN
THE END TIMES! WE'LL NEVER ESCAPE!

ALL BUT MIRANDA PANIC as she comes up with a plan.

MIRANDA P
There's another way out, on Smelt Mountain, a crack in vault.

BABYLONIAN
HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO GET US THERE?!

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, SWARM MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

A MINING ENTRANCE TO A SHAFT has a line of FOREIGN COINS and some OLD US COINS walking into it to escape the fall of Coinage. Peso and Master Yen are there directing them.

YEN MASTER
One at a time, careful in the dark,
'The obstacle is the path'.

Several COINS LOOK UP IN HORROR-- The SILVER TOWER FALLS TOWARDS THEM. They all scatter in every direction--

SOLON THE GREEK
The only true wisdom is in knowing
you know nothing!!! RUUUUUUNNNN!!!

EXT. SILVER CITY SILVER TOWER ASCENSION PLATFORM - NIGHT

The SILVER TOWER FALLS MUCH SLOWER NOW, it's substructure hardening. Johnny hangs on to Sally, Dawn, Eddy, Morgan, Big Al, and Elijah, THERE CHAIN CONNECTED.

JOHNNY P
WHAT IF THE TOWER CRUSHES THE MINE
SHAFT?! WE'LL BE TRAPPED!

MORGAN P
Nothing can stop it now.

The RIVER CRACKS AND POPS wildly as SPRINKLER WATER RAINS down, slowly cooling it, but the CITY IS IN RUINS.

GOLDEN SERPENT
Thiss iss my lassst chanccee!!!

GOLDEN SERPENT THRUSTS FORWARD but JOHNNY DUCKS, snake sailing overhead, falling to the MOLTEN RIVER below.

Golden Serpent screams, his GOLDEN BODY SLOWLY MELTED INTO A FLUID STATE. It seems calm for a moment, then a GREAT WHITE ORB OF ENERGY PULSES OUT as the 11 GOLDEN BITS are destroyed.

ELIJAH
THAT'S FOR MOSHE SHEKEL, SNAKE!!

A GREAT DRAGON OF MOLTEN COPPER grows from the river. The RAIN COOLING AND CRACKING IT as it forms.

BABYLONIAN
High Priestesses and Priests first!

EGYPTIAN
I SECOND THAT! ROLL ASIDE!!

Babylonian and Egyptian try to hurry ahead with their Guards.

MOLTEN DRAGON
I WILL HAVE MY FINAL PIECE!

The MOLTEN BEAST smacks the Silver Tower, knocking free the Babylonian, Egyptian, and Silver Guard Coins, EATING THEM.

EXT. CITY OF LOOSE CHANGE, SWARM MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

The SILVER TOWER is about to crush the mine shaft when the MOLTEN METAL DRAGON BITES ONTO THE SILVER TOWER, freezing as the WATER HARDENS IT, turning into a GROTESQUE SCULPTURE.

All the Foreign Coins emerge as Johnny, Sally, Dawn, Elijah, Eddy, Morgan, and Big Al hop down from the tower platform.

They look down the long Silver Tower and see MIRANDA LEADING ALL THE SURVIVORS toward them, and there are MANY OF THEM.

SALLY P
Wheaty! I knew you would make it!

Miranda and the survivors join Johnny and they all enter the SECRET MINE, leaving the CITY OF COINAGE a smouldering wreck.

EDDY P
 When it comes to saving money, I
 wish that were true for everyone.

Eddy looks back one last time then walks into the darkness.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM - NIGHT

A CRACK IN THE CONCRETE glints with REFLECTED LIGHT as Johnny
 gets ahead of everyone to SURVEY THE SITUATION.

JOHNNY P
 Is nothing easy anymore?!

On the other side of a RUSHING TORRENT OF WATER overflowing
 from the OPEN VAULT DOOR is a LADDER TO THE STREET ABOVE.

SALLY P
 (scared at the prospect)
 How do we get across it?

DAWN P
 (getting an idea)
 By holding hands.

MORGAN P
 (figuring it out)
 Our combined mass will keep us
 weighted to the bottom.

JOHNNY P
 I don't know if I'm strong enough.

SALLY P
 (full of belief)
 You're strong enough.

Johnny hold out his hand, IT GLOWS WITH A GOLDEN HUE.

JOHNNY P
 EVERYONE GRABS HANDS! WE'RE
 CROSSING TOGETHER LIKE A CHAIN!

She grabs his hand, then Morgan's, who grabs Big Al's, he,
 Dawn's who clutches Elijah's, he clutches Eddy's who holds
 Miranda's and so on down the line until EVERY COIN IS LINKED.

ELIJAH
 (totally impressed)
 Man I wish I was the Chain Coin!

MIRANDA P
 (gushing with love)
 You're *my* Chain Coin, Eli.

Morgan looks up at Big Al and blushes, winking.

BIG AL
 (excited about this)
 Hubba-hubba, half-cent is making me
 whole here, stand back folks!

JOHNNY P
 WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LET GO!

Master looks over at Drachma, sharing his bountiful wisdom.

YEN MASTER
 Letting go is purely subjective--

SOLON THE GREEK
 NOW IS NOT THE TIME, YEN!

Johnny walks carefully into the rushing water, debris banging against him, OLD CANS, BITS OF WOOD, BOTTLE CAPS, etc.

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM, UNDER WATER - NIGHT

The GARBAGE FILLED TORRENT is rougher than expected. Johnny leads Sally, Morgan, Big Al, Dawn, Eli, Eddy, Miranda, Master Yen, Drachma and the rest along the BOTTOM OF THE DRAIN PIPE.

Johnny holler back through bubbles, HAND GLOWING BRIGHTER--

JOHNNY P
 SQUEEZE TIGHTER!! TIGHTER!!!

Hit with all manner of odds and ends, the Tribe of Coins led by Johnny makes their way up the OPPOSITE SIDE EMERGING--

INT. NEW YORK CITY, SEWER SYSTEM EMERGENCY LADDER - NIGHT

Johnny breaks forth from the rushing water, safely climbing on a PLATFORM BELOW THE LADDER, more coins on the other side.

SALLY P
 What do we do? There isn't enough
 room for all of us over here.

JOHNNY P
 We climb, like the snake up the
 tower, use our combined strength to
 coil our way up the ladder.

Johnny starts up, combined strength and snake-like movement
TAKES OFF UNEXPECTEDLY, coins rapidly pulled from the river.

BIG AL
WE'RE GOING TO FAST! WE'LL SMASH
AGAINST THAT MANHOLE COVER!

Big Al nods upwards at a SOLID IRON CAST MAN HOLE COVER.

DAWN P
I think we're heavy enough to knock
that thing all the way to Jersey!

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

Dale and Zack hurry from the building, the OPEN AIR BOX TRUCK
NOW EMPTY as MOVERS carry the last of TABLES AND CHAIRS. Gene
TRIPS OVER THE MOVERS trying to catch up, causing everything
to TUMBLE DOWNSTAIRS. Dale and Zack RUN--

GENE
I WANT THAT SILVER DOLLAR!

MR. MATSON, MS. RUSH, APOLLA, and their dog return from
shopping, he stops ON TOP OF THE MAN HOLE COVER.

MR. MATSON
Dale! What is this fuss about?!

Dale and Zack make it to safety, mere feet from Matson.

DALE
Ask Gene, he's gone mad I tell you!

Gene TOSSES CHAIRS OFF of himself--

GENE
(shouting out)
He stole a coin! A Silver Dollar!

ZACK
WE DID NOT! I FOUND IT MYSELF!

MR. MATSON
(with a wicked sneer)
Where did you find it, Zachary?

ZACK
(not wanting to say)
Ummm-- In the lobby...

MR. MATSON

My lobby?! It must have fallen from
my pocket then. Hand it over? NOW!

MS. RUSH

OH THE SHOPPING WE'LL DO WITH THAT!

Apolla is excited too and STICKS HER TONGUE OUT at Zack. SAM
AND SUE EXIT the Numismatic Building's Lobby, WALKING OVER.

MR. MATSON

ENOUGH WITH YOUR SPEND THRIFT WAYS!
You spent your way through your
family's Olive Fortune and have
nearly cost me my bank! That Silver
is all mine! Give it to me!

Zack looks at Dale, he nods for his son to give it away. In
his hand Mr. Silver begs him not to-- NO ONE ELSE HEARS HIM.

Sam and Sue watch on, FILLED WITH CONCERN.

MR. SILVER

DON'T! He'll sell me to the highest
bidder and I'll never find Johnny!

ZACK

I don't have a choice. Here...

He pinches Mr. Silver, handing him over when out of nowhere
the MANHOLE COVER explode upwards, sending Matson flying
through the air as THOUSANDS OF COINS arc in the air, LANDING
IN THE BACK OF THE EMPTY BOX TRUCK. No one can believe it.

Sam and Sue cannot believe their eyes, ZACK SMILES HUGE--

INT. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BOX TRUCK - NIGHT

COINS CLIMB OFF ONE ANOTHER, shaking off the experience as
Big Al lifts Johnny, Sally, Morgan, Elijah, Dawn, Eddy, and
Miranda from the UNDULATING PILE OF COINS.

BIG AL

YOU DID IT, JOHNNY! YOU SAVED US!

JOHNNY P

We're not out of the weeds yet.

Johnny nods to MR. MATSON UP ON THE TREE, fuming mad--

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BUILDING - NIGHT

Ms. Rush and Apolla stand in the same spots when a VOICE comes from MR. MATSON, STUCK IN THE TREE ABOVE THEM.

MR. MATSON
 YOU GIVE ME THAT COIN OR I PROMISE
 YOU WILL FIND YOURSELF IN RUINS!
 HOUSE GONE, BUS ROUTE CANCELED!

DALE
 Like Murph always said, "Disrespect
 for a dollar can be deadly".

MR. MATSON
 Don't quote that old fools mumbo to
 me! Gene! Bring me those coins!!

GENE
 It's all mine now, I'm the Vault
 Master, I have Power of Attorney.
 And guess who has been the one
 draining your bank accounts?

MS. RUSH
 (feeling accomplished)
 I knew it wasn't me spending all
 that money! I mean, it was, but--

MR. MATSON
 (absolutely heartbroken)
 Why, Gene? What have you been
 spending it on? You started
 gambling again didn't you?!

GENE
 No, I've been investing it--

Gene STEPS ON THE END OF A TABLE balanced on a PILE OF BOXES,
 MANHOLE COVER finally landing ON THE TABLE, launching Gene
 into the air toward Dale, Zack, and Mr. Silver.

GENE (CONT'D)
 (voice echoing away)
 --in Biiiiiit-Coooooiiiiin!!!

Zack and Dale back away as GENE DROPS INTO THE OPEN MANHOLE
 ENDING IN A HUGE SPLASH, water gushing like a geyser, raining
 down on Ms. Rush, missing Apolla and the dog. Apolla smiles--

MS. RUSH
 MY ST. LAURENT! MY COCO CHANNEL!

Sam and Sue look on, concerned--

DALE
Hey Sam! The clock is yours!!

ZACK
Dad!

Zack points to the KEYS INSIDE THE IGNITION of the truck.
Dale looks over at the DRIVER, standing with the MOVERS.

DALE
(calls out to Driver)
MIND IF I DRIVE YOUR TRUCK?!

DRIVER
(nodding affirmative)
You can drive a bus can't ya?

Dale and Zack DRIVE AWAY, EXHAUST BACKFIRING BLACK SMOKE
around Mr. Matson who SNEEZES, FALLING OUT OF THE TREE.

MR. MATSON
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS DAAAAALE!!!

He drops THROUGH THE MANHOLE in HUGE SPLASH that lands on
Apolla and her dog, the DOG GROWLS IN PROTEST.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY, MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT

FAR BELOW the Numismatic Society truck makes it's way toward
the bridge across the Hudson, and the Countryside beyond. The
Numismatic Building drifts away from view, as does the city.

THE COINS in the truck below SING, "*The Penny Rhyme*".

COINS SINGING (V.O.)
(sounding far away)
Penny, Penny, easy spent, Copper
brown and worth one cent! Nickel,
nickel, thick and fat, you're worth
five I'm sure of that!

INT. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY BOX TRUCK, TRAVELLING ALONG - NIGHT

The BRIDGE GIRDERS APPEAR OVER HEAD as they leave the city.
The Coins are in a circle, HOLDING A HANDKERCHIEF, TOSSING
JOHNNY IN THE AIR, he flips happily.

COINS SINGING
(voices now louder)
Dime, dime, little and thin, just
remember you're worth ten!

Sally, Big Al, Morgan, Elijah, Dawn, Eddy, Miranda, Solon the Greek, and Yen Master all hold the handkerchief and sing.

COINS SINGING (CONT'D)
 Quarter, quarter, big and bold.
 You're worth twenty-five I'm told!

EXT. NEW YORK STATE HIGHWAY, OUTSIDE TOWN - DAWN

OVER THE DISTANT OCEAN the first rays of MORNING SUN RISE--
 As Johnny spins about, he nods for Sally to look, SHE DOES.

COINS SINGING (V.O.)
 (voices distant again)
 But penny-penny pick one up and all
 day long you'll have good luck!!

EXT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, BERWYN, NEW YORK STATE - DAY

The IDYLIC FARM HOUSE sits peacefully, STONE BLACKSMITH SHED
 off to the side. In the middle of a wispy grass field stands
 the LARGE RED BARN, freshly painted, COMPLETELY REFURBISHED.

Passing through smoke from the blacksmith shop, above the
 BUNNY FILLED FIELD, the SOUNDS OF CONSTRUCTION and THOUSANDS
 OF TINY VOICES chatting excitedly begins growing in volume.

The HAY LOFT DOOR IS OPEN, the sound comes from within--

INT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, RED BARN CITY - DAY

PASSING THROUGH THE HAY LOFT we find inside this VINTAGE BARN
 a NEW CITY is being built, all the coins, DOMESTIC AND
 FOREIGN, all denominations take part, not just the pennies.

MURPH IS WEARING A HARD HAT, on HIS SHOULDER IS JOHNNY, also
 in a hard hat. Johnny smiles back at Murph, happy to be home.

MURPH
 Three weeks of freedom and you've
 built all this? Very impressive.

JOHNNY P
 I'm just a cog in the wheel, Murph.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, MAIN STREET - DAY

The NEW TOWN consists of all manner of materials and salvaged
 items, OIL CANS, APPLE BOXES, SOUP CANS, TIN PITCHERS, etc.

A NEW MAIN STREET runs down the middle of the barn floor, HALF OF IT IS FINISHED and looks very much like a PIONEER TOWN WITH A RECLAIMED STEAM-PUNK ARCHITECTURE.

ZIP LINES AND WOODEN COIN SHOOTS cross between TIN CARRIAGE TRACKS with new, SPORTS CAR TROLLEY'S SPEEDING ALONG on FAST TRACKS while SLOWER CARRIAGES cruise about on SLOW TRACKS.

Coins are HAPPY, some SING '**THE PENNY RHYME**' WHILE WORKING.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, MR. SHINY'S PINCH AND POLISH - DAY

Eddy P straightens a sign on his new PINCH AND POLISH SHOP called "**MR. SHINY'S PINCH 'N POLISH, We'll make you Shine from the Inside-Out**". Eddy waves to Al across the street--

EDDY P
MORNING AL!

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, BIG AL'S PIGGY PALACE - DAY

Across the street is "**BIG AL'S PIGGY PALACE, a Place for Family and Friends**" with Big Al waving folks in.

BIG AL
Come in, all denominations welcome.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, DAWN'S DELIGHTS - DAY

Next door is "**DAWN'S DELIGHTS, Real Clothes for Real Coins**" with ACTUAL CLOTH CLOTHES instead of PAPER MONEY.

Dawn is inside showing NEW DRESSES TO CUSTOMER COINS.

DAWN P
Cashmere causes static electric sparks, try Egyptian cotton.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, ELI'S COIN CART SHOP - DAY

Up the road from Dawn's is '**ELI'S COIN CART RACERS, Get there Fast, not Last**'. Elijah REVS AN ENGINE on a hot-rod--

A group of HOT-ROD ENTHUSIAST COINS gather about him, he shows them DESIGNER COIN CARTS with CUSTOM SCRATCH ART.

ELIJAH
THAT'S WHAT PROGRESS SOUNDS LIKE!

INT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, RED BARN CITY - DAY

MURPH SMILES, nodding to Miranda, Johnny looks down--

MURPH
 (proudly to Johnny)
 Look at Miranda making a difference
 in the lives of others.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, MIRANDA'S SCHOOL OF VALUES - DAY

A four story wood structure with a sign reading, "**MIRANDA'S SCHOOL OF VALUES, Learn Your Worth**" is across the way. Inside are LINES OF DESKS and CHALKBOARD with Miranda in the front.

MIRANDA P
 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow put it
 best, " A single conversation with
 a wise man is better than ten years
 of mere book study."

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, MORGAN'S DANCE STUDIO - DAY

Down the road is "**DANCE WITH MORGAN, Spin into the Future**".
 Morgan is SEEN THROUGH THE LARGE WINDOW showing Coins how to
 SPIN PERFECTLY and stop, they all try it out.

MORGAN P
 Think of your spinning like it's a
 checkbook, always kept in balance.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, HOTEL SALLY - DAY

Up the street a LARGE SIGN IS RAISED INTO PLACE that has
 painted on it, "**HOTEL SALLY, Relax and Revive**", where Sally
 waves and BLOWS A KISS to Johnny who smiles back.

SALLY P
 I always have room for you, Johnny!

INT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, RED BARN CITY - DAY

Johnny stands on Murph's shoulder, happy as can be. Murph
 holds out his hand, Johnny hops on. Murph GIVES HIM A PINCH,
 Johnny giggles and tries pinching back.

MURPH
 If you don't pinch your pennies,
 they'll pinch you back!

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, HOTEL SALLY - DAY

Murph sets Johnny down NEXT TO SALLY, who grabs his hand.

MURPH

What business are starting, Johnny?

JOHNNY P

My job is keeping Liberty safe.

She KISSES HIM ON THE CHEEK and he shimmers with shyness.

MURPH

My job is to keep all of you safe,
when I'm gone, Zack will take over.

INT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, RED BARN CITY - DAY

The BARN DOOR OPENS and Zack enters with MR. SILVER ON THE PALM OF HIS HAND. Dale is with him, and though he CANNOT SEE THE ANIMATED COINS, he does see them rolling about, zipping along the tracks, working away SEEMINGLY BY MAGIC.

DALE

Always took you for a *mainomai*,
Murph. An old Greek madman.

ZACK SEES THEM ALL and can't believe his eyes. He stands by Murph, staring at the GROWING CITY.

MURPH

Most people spend first and save
last, time will not always be on
our side. We have to learn to cut
our want-ers off. The more you
start thinking it can be done, the
more you'll pinch those pennies
that won't pinch you back.

Sally PINCHES JOHNNY'S CHEEK, he giggles, pinching her.

ZACK

Remember what Ben Franklin said, "A
penny saved is a penny earned".

DOWN BELOW, BIG AL RAISES A CUP filled with COIN POLISH, as he DRINKS IT, HIS FACE SHINES BRIGHTLY, happy as ever.

BIG AL

I'LL DRINK TO THAT!!!

ALL THE COINS GO BACK TO WORK, SINGING HAPPILY, building their new COIN CITY. A SIGN POST RAISES UP READING: **Welcome to City of Freedom, Population \$8,345,426.23 (17,963 Coins)**

In front of the Hotel, Johnny smiles, cuddling Sally sweetly.

EXT. CITY OF FREEDOM, CHURCH OF SAVINGS - DAY

A SMALL BIRD lands on a little wooden CHURCH STEEPLE, sign outside reads: **"CHURCH OF SAVINGS, Save Yourselves"**.

At the entrance Master Yen and Drachma, dressed as monks, welcoming NEW PARISHIONERS, many Coins already inside.

YEN MASTER

Opportunities are all around us!

SOLON THE GREEK

It up to us to sponge off those people with expertise and powerful information that can better our worlds and even change our lives.

A CHURCH BELL RINGS, startling the bird away. It flies above the NEW CITY OF FREEDOM, up and out the HAY LOFT--

EXT. COUNTRY FARM HOUSE, REFURBISHED RED BARN - DAY

The bird flies on, getting higher, the FARM BELOW GETS SMALLER, soon you can see the whole County, the city of NEW YORK CITY FAR OFF IN THE DISTANCE, sun finally setting.

THE END